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THE TIMES

No. 66,043 MONDAY NOVEMBER 10 1997 http://www.the-times.co.uk

TODAY 10p

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Our literary editor survives an army assault course
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ARSENAL WINS BATTLE OF GIANTS
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PLUS RUGBY
French dominate in Heineken Cup
PAGES 34,35

TODAY 10p

Mary Shelley's lost children's story found in Italian palazzo

Mary Shelley: wrote of story in journal

From Richard Owen
in San Marcello Pistoiese

A LONG-LOST story for children by Mary Shelley, the author of *Frankenstein*, has been discovered in the private archives of an Italian family in their palazzo in the Tuscany hills, where it has lain unread and unnoticed for more than 150 years.

The story, entitled *Maurice, or the Fisher's Cot* consists of 39 closely written pages in Mary Shelley's handwriting. Set on the Devon coast near Torquay, it is dated 1820 and was found in a wooden chest in a neglected box room by Cristina Dazzi and her husband, Andrea, who is descended from a member of the Shelleys' Italian circle.

The manuscript has been authenticated by two experts: Claire Tomalin, the author and co-organiser of a new London exhibition devoted to Shelley and her mother, the early feminist Mary Wollstonecraft; and Catherine Payling, curator of the Keats-Shelley Memorial House in Rome.

Mrs Tomalin, author of *Shelley and his World* and *The Life and Death of Mary Wollstonecraft*, described it as "a very exciting find. Scholars have quite wrongly assumed the story to be lost." Ms Payling said the story was mentioned in Mary Shelley's journal, but had never been found. "The discovery adds greatly to our understanding of Mary Shelley's mind and imagination," she said.

The story was written for Laura, known as Lauretta (or Laurette), the 11-year-old daughter of Lady Mountcashell, a close friend of Mary and her husband, the poet Percy Bysshe Shelley, during their exile in Italy in the early 19th century. Lady Mountcashell — who as a girl had been taught by Mary Wollstonecraft — was also in exile at the time, having separated from her Irish husband and eloped with her lover, George Tighe, settling in Tuscany under the name "Mrs Mason". An entry in Mary Shelley's journal for 10 August 1820 — just before her 23rd birthday — reads: "Write a story for Laurette. Walk in the mountains … The weather is warm and delightful."

She did not name the story, but Mrs Tomalin and Ms Payling said the evidence was "overwhelming" that the reference was to *Maurice*. Mrs Tomalin said that Mary Shelley had shown *Maurice* to her father, William Godwin, the philosopher and publisher, but he considered it "too short for publication". The handwriting is identical to that of manuscripts by Mary Shelley brought from the Keats-Shelley Museum in Rome for comparison. "Its provenance is impeccable," Ms Payling said.

Written two years after the publication of *Frankenstein*, the story is a sentimental morality tale about a boy who runs away from his presumed parents, is adopted by an old fisherman and lives in a cottage — the "cot" of the subtitle — on the coast near Torquay.

Laura was one of Lady Mountcashell's two daughters by Tighe. Perhaps inspired by the Shelleys, she later wrote novels under her married name, Sara Tardy.

Claire Tomalin, page 3

Laura: Shelley story was written for her

Iraq prepares to fire on US spy planes

By Tom Rhodes in Washington and Michael Theodoulou in Nicosia

Clinton: eventually Saddam will comply

FEARS of a military conflict in the Gulf grew last night after Baghdad announced that its anti-aircraft systems were on alert to shoot down American U2 spy planes that are set to resume surveillance flights over Iraq today.

Baghdad has ordered a maximum state of alert for all military units, all military leave has been cancelled, and all commanders have been told to expect an attack.

President Clinton issued America's strongest threat yet to Iraq's President Saddam Hussein, warning that the international community would take strong and unambiguous action if Baghdad failed to comply with United Nations resolutions over weapons inspections.

He also said that any attempt to shoot down U2 planes would be a "big mistake". Madeleine Albright, the Secretary of State, and Samuel Berger, the National Security Adviser, said any attack on the spy planes would be viewed as an attack on the international community but could result in a unilateral strike by the United States.

"I think that Saddam Hussein needs to understand that this is a serious business," Mr Clinton said yesterday. "This is not just the President of the United States; the American people feel this way. And it's not just the American people, it's the world community … He will comply eventually … it will not be without consequences if he does not comply."

In London the Foreign Office reiterated that no option had been ruled out, although it refused to be drawn on a report that plans had been drawn up for Tornado jets to take part in a joint strike with US forces. Tony Blair has written to Mr Clinton offering Britain's full backing for a united front against Iraq.

In a transparent attempt to dictate terms and spin out the confrontation, Iraq urged the UN to postpone the U2 flights for a second time, claiming this was necessary to give diplomacy a chance and prevent the crisis from escalating.

Tariq Aziz, Iraq's deputy Prime Minister, arrives in New York today, hoping the UN Security Council will give him the chance to defend his country's decision to expel American arms experts. UN inspection teams were turned back for a seventh day yesterday because they included Americans.

Iraqi forces were reported to be dispersing across the country to evade attack. A leading Iraqi opposition group said tanks of the Iraqi Army and elite Republican Guard were being split into units of no more than four tanks each, with some being hidden in civilian areas, while ammunition was being stored in schools, industrial facilities and food storage warehouses.

Marshal Khaldoum Kattab Bakr, the Iraqi Air Force commander, said: "Our heroic eagles are on full alert to confront any aggression or any fresh stupidity the American administration may commit against magnificent Iraq." He added: "They will be vanquished, God willing."

Iraqi newspapers accused Richard Butler, and Australian and the UN's chief weapons inspector, of siding with the US and ordering today's U2 flights in the hope of triggering a military confrontation.

The U2 spy plane flies at more than 65,000 ft but Iraq's arsenal contains three types of surface-to-air missile that could reach such heights. These are the SA-2, which can reach 98,000 ft, the SA-3, which reaches 65,000 ft and the more modern SA-6 which reaches 79,000 ft.

It is expected that the U2s will be escorted by a large protection force including airborne warning and communications systems, specialist electronic warfare aircraft to confuse Iraqi radar, aircraft carrying high speed anti-radiation missiles, fighters and search and rescue planes.

Iraqi anti-aircraft positions could be targeted simply if they locked their radar on to a US plane, which would be seen as a sufficient threat.

Arab reaction, page 13

ASHLEY COOMBES

Tony Blair's sons Nicholas, left, and Euan and daughter Kathryn with their mother Cherie and grandfather Leo at the Remembrance Day ceremony. Page 9

Brown takes first step towards joining EMU

By Andrew Pierce and Philip Bassett

GORDON BROWN will today announce the first practical steps towards Britain joining a single European currency with the creation of a body to oversee the changeover from sterling.

His announcement will come as the Chancellor does battle with William Hague, the Conservative leader, to win the support of the business community over their sharply differing views on Europe. Both men are to address the Confederation of British Industry conference in Birmingham.

The Government is taking heart from a survey published yesterday by the CBI showing that 72 per cent of its members favour a single currency. But, with some leading CBI members pouring scorn on the survey's validity, it emerged that the confederation may conduct its own wider referendum on the issue.

Mr Hague will arrive at the conference bolstered by the support of the chairmen of 13 blue-chip companies who, in a letter in *The Times* today, argue that British business, far from supporting a single currency, is as divided as politicians.

"Let's have an EMU update — that should cure the Insomnia"

Mr Brown, in his speech, will signal that the committee of senior ministers, the CBI, Chamber of Commerce, and trade unions that he has established will begin work on Wednesday on the administrative arrangements to oversee the changeover if Britain does join the single currency. The committee will set up a new body much like the Decimalisation Board that spearheaded the change from the old imperial system.

He will say: "These practical preparations, of vital importance to every large and small businesses in the country, about how we compete in Europe, are too important to leave to dogma and party politics." He will point to the snapshot sample of opinion in the CBI to argue that opinion has moved the Government's

Continued on page 2, col 5

Leading article and Letters, page 23

New channel rolls out

THE BBC yesterday launched a 24-hour television rolling news channel, costing licence payers £30 million a year but with only a limited audience.

By day, News 24 is accessible only on cable. At night, it is available on BBC1 between the end of transmissions and the start of breakfast programmes. Executives have been accused of wasting resources on a service not wanted by the public and diverting money away from flagship news programmes.

Staff working on the channel said they were bitter about being asked to work longer hours and more weekends without receiving any extra pay……………… Page 2

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Experts say judge will not free Woodward

By Tunku Varadarajan

A JUDGE in Massachusetts is expected to deliver his verdict today on the fate of Louise Woodward, the British au pair convicted by a jury ten days ago of the murder of eight-month-old Matthew Eappen.

Legal experts say that Judge Hiller B. Zobel, of the Middlesex County Superior Court, will "almost certainly not" set Woodward free, as he was asked to do by her lawyers last week in a motion challenging the jury's verdict. Observers have predicted that the judge will reduce the charges against Woodward to manslaughter, thereby cutting drastically the time she would have to serve in prison.

Second degree murder carries a mandatory life sentence, with eligibility for parole after 15 years. Under Massachusetts law, the offence of manslaughter carries a maximum jail sentence of 20 years, with no minimum laid down.

If her charge is reduced, the 19-year-old nanny from Elton, near Chester, is likely to serve anything between two to five years in prison, with an earlier release dependent on good behaviour.

Lawyers have dismissed as "fanciful" reports in the British media that she could be set free within days of her charges being reduced. If Woodward's conviction of second degree murder is not altered by the judge, she could find herself in prison for at least 15 years.

A lawyer close to the defence team said: "People have been saying that just because she would be eligible for parole after 15 years that she will actually get out then. This just not true. In Massachusetts, hardly 5 per cent of all murder convicts get paroled at their first hearing."

As they were awaiting the judge's ruling, Woodward's parents last night thanked their village for its work in galvanising the massive campaign to overturn her conviction.

Gary and Sue Woodward sent a televised message from America to their neighbours in Elton watching in the village pub that the support was keeping their daughter going, and said they would be bringing her home.

"She does not belong in America, she has not done anything wrong," Mrs Woodward said. The couple said they had been "overwhelmed" by news of the level of support.

One of the campaigners said the issue had transformed the community. "It is not a village, it is a family," the woman said.

Photograph, page 26

BAUME & MERCIER
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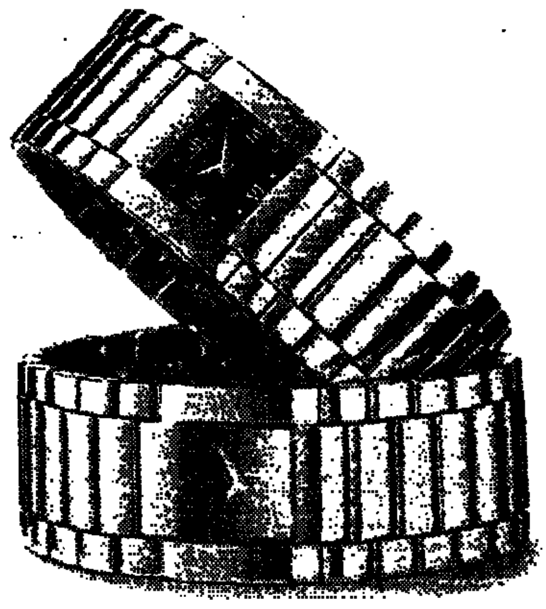

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Nolan successor calls for new inquiry regime

Valerie Elliott and **Andrew Pierce** report on a new sleaze scandal in the offing over political funding

A NEW system to investigate allegations of impropriety against ministers is being urged by the Public Standards watchdog who starts work today on an official inquiry into party political funding.

The intervention by Sir Patrick Neill, QC, who takes over from Lord Nolan, came as the controversy deepened over Labour's financial links with Formula One racing.

The disclosure that two members of the three-man delegation from the motor racing industry — who met Tony Blair last month before the dropping of the ban on tobacco sponsorship for Formula One was announced — were Labour donors was seized on by Opposition MPs yesterday.

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, called for the matter to be referred to Sir Patrick's Committee on Standards in public life. Sir Patrick, in an interview with *The Times* today, said that in addition to a new investigatory regime there should also be a register for politicans to record potential conflicts of interest which might exist from relationships with partners, children, and even in-laws.

His comments came only days after it was disclosed that the husband of Tessa Jowell, the Minister for Public Health, was a former director of the leading race team Benetton Formula. The register should apply to anyone in public life.

Sir Patrick said: "You have got to have a procedure to move into place when there is something serious alleged against a minister. There are, of course, some people who make wild allegations, and so you don't want to put in force the full panoply of an investigation when the allegations are baseless."

Labour yesterday denied any suggestion that the Government had been improperly influenced in the decision to exclude Formula One from the sponsorship ban.

Two members of the delegation that met Mr Blair, Max Mosley, president of the Federation International d'Automobile, the sport's governing body, and David Ward, a professional lobbyist who works for the Federation, are in the exclusive 1000 Club whose members give at least £1,000 to party funds.

Labour officials refused to confirm or deny reports that the third member, Bernie Ecclestone, the multimillionaire president of the Formula One Association, was also a benefactor in the form of donations to party funds or the blind trust which financed Tony Blair's office when he was Leader of the Opposition.

In a new twist, the Labour Party — which ruthlessly exploited the Tories' secret source of donations before the election — was criticised last night by Henry Drucker, the party's former paid fundraiser.

Mr Drucker resigned in protest at the party's reliance on the blind trusts which also financed the offices of Gordon Brown, and John Prescott. Only a handful of trustees knew the identity of the donors.

Sir Patrick Neill: no meddling on committee

Mr Drucker said: "The chickens are coming home to roost. I warned the Labour Party leadership last year to get rid of the trusts. They were trouble. They were always likely to discredit Tony Blair because they are shrouded in secrecy."

Mr Drucker quit after a bitter personal row with Michael Levy, the millionaire record producer, who was one of the key figures behind the secret fund. Mr Levy was rewarded with a life peerage by Mr Blair after the election.

Mr Ashdown, said on ITV's *Jonathan Dimbleby* programme: "This is a serious issue. It is an issue in which there are questions to be asked in a proper and reasonable fashion."

A Labour Party spokesman said: "It is utterly unacceptable to suggest that there is any link between any money that anyone may have given to the Labour Party and any decision that the Government has taken in the national interest."

John Redwood, the Shadow trade secretary, said the Government had to come clean. "Why has the Government broken its promise to rule out all this sponsorship? They said they would rule it out, they haven't. We want to know why."

Sir Patrick, in a wide ranging interview, argued in favour of a set procedure for investigation, was clearly unhappy Cabinet Secretary Sir Robin Butler had been asked to take a judgment on the behaviour of former ministers Neil Hamilton and Jonathan Aitken and insisted he would not put up with any interference on the committee.

DAVID DYSON

Tim Barnby returning to work at Heathrow yesterday, three days after safely landing a Virgin Atlantic Airbus A340 whose undercarriage failed to operate. Captain Barnby, bound for Tokyo, said he was no more nervous than usual

Adams in claim for access to Commons facilities

By Martin Fletcher
Chief Ireland Correspondent

GERRY ADAMS, Sinn Fein's President, expects shortly to meet Betty Boothroyd, the Speaker of the House of Commons, as he strives to contain republican dissent over Sinn Fein's participation in the Stormont peace talks.

Mr Adams and Martin McGuinness, Sinn Fein's other MP, are determined to press their demand for full access to Commons facilities despite their refusal to swear allegiance to the Queen or to take their seats. "I am seeking a meeting with Betty Boothroyd and intend to have it before Christmas," Mr Adams told BBC Radio Ulster.

After May's general election, Mrs Boothroyd denied the two men free use of Commons offices, telephones and stationery. Her ruling survived a High Court challenge, though Mr McGuinness is threatening to go to the European Court of Justice. To reopen the issue by meeting them now would almost certainly be seen as concession at a time when republican dissidents are claiming the ceasefire has produced no benefits.

Mr Adams consulted his legal advisers last week. A spokesman said he and Mr McGuinness not only had mandates, but required access to "the heart of the British establishment" so they could "talk to British political and public opinion". Since May Sinn Fein has been admitted to the peace talks, Mr Adams has met the Prime Minister, and tomorrow he addresses the French parliament.

In another move that would be welcomed by republicans, security sources expect the army to withdraw a battalion from Northern Ireland before Christmas provided the ceasefire holds.

That would have little effect on the army's overall strength in the province, but the reduction would be symbolically important at a time when Sinn Fein claims the troops' continued presence on the streets is provocative.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Dr Carey: new council

Church to boost state link

Proposals to strengthen the "establishment" status of the Church of England are to be unveiled in London today. Church leaders want to build a new stability into Church-state relations after recent upheavals over church finances, women priests and the distress over the death of Diana, Princess of Wales. The General Synod, which meets in Westminster at the end of this month, will debate plans to create an Archbishops' Council headed by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, Dr George Carey and Dr David Hope.

Jobless inquiry

Fifteen jobcentres round Britain are being investigated by government inspectors after allegations that staff fiddled job placement totals (Valerie Elliott writes). The employment service has sent investigators to the centres to discover whether any staff deliberately set out to falsify the number of jobless placed in work.

Hunt backed

The Ministry of Defence has issued a warning to Downing Street that it opposes a ban on fox hunting on military training areas to appease Labour backbenchers. The MoD fears a ban would lead to some landowners refusing to allow training on their property, which would have "serious operational consequences".

CJD 'in blood'

A leading government health adviser, Professor John Pattison, the chairman of the Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Body, says on BBC1's *Panorama* tonight he believes there is a "significant risk" that Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease could be present in the national blood supply, and calls for preventative action.

Diver dies

A diver died and 27-year-old twins Ian and Stuart Middle of Warwickshire were airlifted to hospital after trying to rescue him in a disused quarry near Talysarn in the Nantlle Valley of Snowdonia. The brothers were taken by helicopter to a decompression chamber in The Wirral. Their conditions was said not to be serious.

Tourism hitch

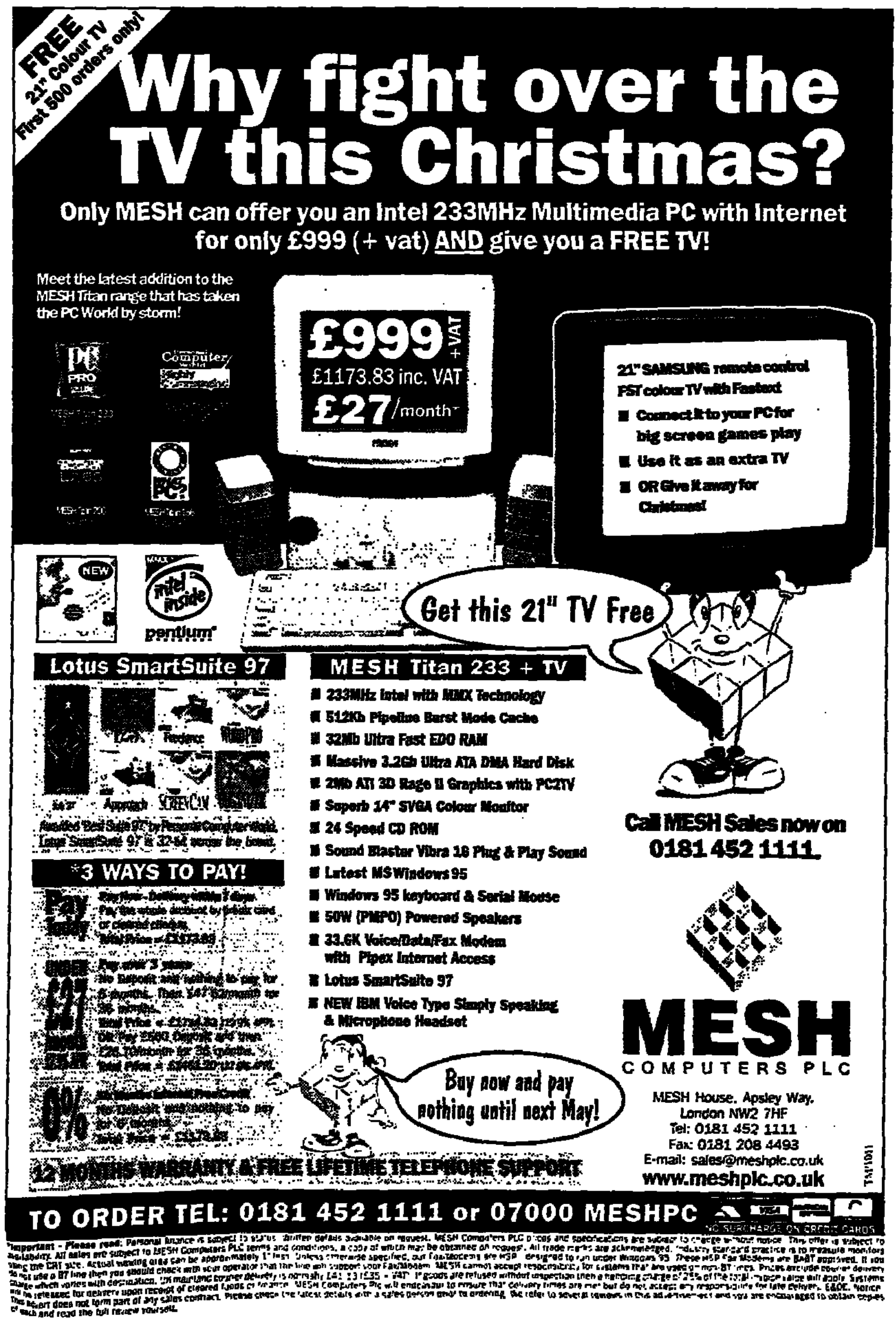
The strong pound will affect overseas tourist figures for months to come, Richard Tobias, chief executive of the British Incoming Tour Operators Association, said yesterday. Foreign tourists totalled 2.92 million in August 1997, down 3 per cent on the August 1996 figure. Figures for 1997 are expected to be down.

Steroid arrest

The runner-up in this year's Mr Universe has been arrested by police after steroids worth more than £3,000 were allegedly found in an early morning raid. Graham Black, 34, Mr Europe and Mr Britain 1996, was detained on suspicion of possessing the drugs with intent to supply. He has been freed on police bail.

Curry day

Today is National Curry Day, being staged to mark curry taking over from fish and chips as Britain's favourite meal. It will be celebrated with special spicy snacks, new curry recipes and in Birmingham even a curry-flavoured ale specially brewed by the Firkin Brewery at a strength of 5.6 per cent alcohol.



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CBI represents 'great majority' of business

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

LEADERS of the Confederation of British Industry, bracing themselves for attacks from Euro-sceptics, yesterday insisted that the organisation was fully representative of British business. Sir Colin Marshall, CBI president and chairman of British Airways, said he felt strongly that the CBI spoke very clearly for the "great majority" of British business interests.

The confederation, formed in 1977, represents the interests of business to the government of the day. In Europe, as a key player in the Europe-wide employers' organisation Unice, it plays a part in shaping European legislation affecting business.

It is far from alone in claiming to represent business in Britain. Its principal rival, the Institute of Directors, claims to be closer to small companies in particular, since directors join as individuals; firms join the CBI as corporate members. Other bodies include the British Chambers of Commerce, which has a wide membership among small companies, the Institute of Management and the EEF engineering employers' federation. Membership now stands at around 250,000 of Britain's two million-plus firms, although many are members only through their trade associations.

The big, bluechip companies tend to be the CBI's main players. They include BA, Marks & Spencer, Ford, the Post Office, BT, Shell, Whitbread, ICI, Guinness, Grand Met, Rover, Unilever, British Steel, Barclays and Glaxo.

The CBI's governing body is its council, which meets quarterly, but its key body is the president's committee, which meets 10 times a year. It currently has 61 lay members, and companies on it cover about 85 per cent of the FTSE Top 100 firms in Britain.

On EMU, the CBI's policy was formed when CBI staff, led by Adair Turner, the Director-General, and Kate Barker, the chief economist, drew up a policy document setting out the options facing Britain over monetary union. This document was put to seven different CBI standing committees, all 13 of its regional councils and individual member firms invited to send in their own views.

With 400 firms consulted, and following two large-scale MORI polls on EMU over the last two years, the CBI voted as follows: 52 per cent for EMU entry in principle, but with entry delayed: 42 per cent for EMU entry as soon as possible; 3 per cent each for wait and see, and ruling out EMU for the forseeable future.

Brown's first EMU step

Continued from page 1

way in its arguments supporting monetary union.

The Chancellor will also announce that the Treasury will apply to the European Union for £5 million of public funds to pay for an education programme about the merits of the Euro.

Mr Hague, who said yesterday that he was not picking a fight with the CBI but was prepared to disagree with his friends, will describe as "lemmings" the supporters of the argument that Britain cannot afford to be left behind.

"If the nightmare of our experience in the exchange-rate mechanism teaches us anything, it is not to steer by the siren voices of a supposed consensus, but to exercise the independent judgement of a cool head," he will say.

Mr Hague's view is reinforced in the letter to *The Times* from, among others, Sir Stanley Kalms, chairman of the Dixons Group, Lord Hanson, and Henry Keswick, the chairman of Jardine Matheson Holdings, which says:

Brown: doing battle with William Hague

"Abolishing the pound could pose very serious economic and constitutional risks for this country."

The businessmen argue that Britain paid a high price for its membership of the exchange-rate mechanism which the CBI had advocated. "We were able to come out of the ERM; we might never be able to come out of a single currency," their letter says. But Mr Hague's hardline stance has continued to cause unease in the Tory Party, with Sir Edward Heath, the former Prime Minister, announcing that he might defy the three-line whip later this week on the Amsterdam Summit.

Speaking on BBC1's *Breakfast with Frost*, he said: "If they are just going to damn the whole of the Amsterdam Treaty, then there are people who won't support them."

The CBI survey emphasised the deep differences developing among Conservatives, but it was dismissed as unrepresentative by opponents of a single currency. They pointed out that 2,441 questionaires were sent and fewer than 800 returned.

But Sir Colin Marshall, the CBI chairman, said: "The response on EMU gives a clear message from CBI members, following the Chancellor's statement to Parliament. A large majority of firms want the UK to join EMU provided the conditions for success are in place."

'Maurice' is our link with Shelley

Claire Tomalin ponders how a long-lost children's story adds to a chain that brings her closer to the creator of Frankenstein

RETURNING from abroad ten days ago I found in the long loop of faxes delivered during my absence one from Italy. It was from Signora Cristina Dazzi, quite unknown to me, telling me she thought she had come upon a "novel autograph unpublished by Mary Shelley".

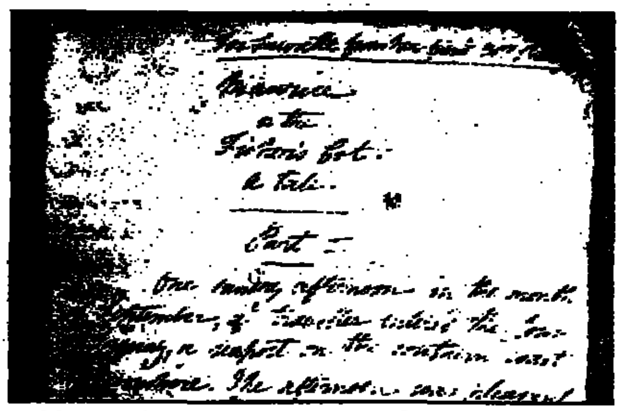
She gave its title (Maurice or the Fisher's Cot), described it as "a little book of a few pages, sewed with a string and covered by a thicker paper, inside the cover the words 'alla Signora Shelley', perhaps it was a paper bundle piece which Mary used to sew the little leaves, and at the top of the first page: 'For Laurette from her friend Mrs Shelley' ". She mentioned too that her husband's family, the Cinis, had been close to the Shelleys in the 1820s; and she asked for my advice.

The coincidence seemed almost too good to be true. Mary Shelley has been in my mind most of this year while I have helped organize an exhibition devoted to her and her equally famous mother, Mary Wollstonecraft, which opens at the National Portrait Gallery in London on November 28. To have news at this moment of the possible discovery of a story by her, written 170 years ago and believed lost, was like a dream.

We know from Mary Shelley's own Italian journal that she did write a story "for Laurette" on August 10, 1820, and that in October 1821 she sent a copy of a story called *Maurice* to her father, William Godwin, who ran a children's publishing company. He pronounced it too short for publication, and that is the last anyone has ever heard of *Maurice* until now.

After consulting Nora Crook, editor of the eight-volume edition of Mary Shelley's novels, I decided I must go to Italy. I also spoke to Catherine Payling, curator of the Keats-Shelley Museum in Rome, who had given my name to Signora Dazzi. Signor and Signora Dazzi were understandably cautious about an influx of visitors. They nevertheless greeted us with the greatest politeness, and allowed us to examine the precious booklet. I sat at a table by a window overlooking their "English garden" while they brought out other treasures, and appalled when they offered me coffee on the same table on which the manuscript lay. No ink, no coffee, nothing that could mark it must come near, I insisted.

I found the manuscript exactly as Signora Dazzi had described it. It is written in ink on white paper. I could see no watermarks, although the binding made it hard to open it and be sure. There are very few crossings out. The handwriting is entirely legible and shows the characteristic letter formations of Mary Shelley.


The opening of the story: written for an 11-year-old girl in 1820, it had disappeared from history

The story is told in three parts and divided into two booklets, the whole work only 39 pages long. If Mary Shelley wrote it in a single day, as her journal suggests, she must have meditated it in advance, perhaps when Laurette visited her in July on the coast at Livorno.

Its significance as a gift to this particular child at this particular moment is touching and important. For Laurette was the illegitimate daughter of Lady Mountcashell, who had herself been the pupil of Mary Shelley's mother, Mary Wollstonecraft. The story is a piece in a long and fascinating chain of events linking the two families.

It began thirty years earlier, in 1788, when Mary Wollstonecraft travelled to Ireland to be governess in the family of Robert King, Earl of Kingston. His eldest daughter Margaret became her favourite pupil, and when Wollstonecraft was dismissed, she continued a clandestine correspondence with her. Five years later, Margaret married another Irish peer, the Earl of Mountcashell. She was a clever young woman with political interests, "a democrat and republican" (like Wollstonecraft), and took little interest in her husband or the many children she bore him. In 1804 she met another Irishman, William Tighe, and in due course separated from her husband and went off to Italy with Tighe.

> 'The story is coloured by Mary Shelley's melancholy even though it is for a child'

In Italy they called themselves Mr and Mrs Mason, the name taken from Mary Wollstonecraft's *Original Stories* written for children, in which the wise governess is called Mrs Mason. By now Mary Wollstonecraft was dead. She had married William Godwin, and died giving birth to the younger Mary in 1797. Subsequently, Godwin and 'Mrs Mason' became friends, and when she in turn wrote a story for children, he published it.

Two daughters were born to the Masons, Laurette in 1809 and Nerina in 1815. And when Mary Shelley and her poet husband set off for Italy in 1818, they carried wih them a letter of introduction from Godwin to 'Mrs Mason'. They took up the introduction in Pisa in September 1819, and quickly became close friends. Mrs Mason clearly saw herself in the role of a second mother to the child of her one-time governess, and offered good advice on medical and personal matters to Mary and her step-sister Claire Clairmont, and also to Shelley. Under Mrs Mason's influence, Mary also re-read all her mother's works in the spring of 1820.

Mary was at this time sunk in depression. She was only twenty-two. She had eloped with Shelley at sixteen, borne him three children, and seen them all die, most recently their adored son William. A fourth child, Percy Florence, was born in November 1819, and Mary was now nursing *him, but had not* emerged from her depression. Despite this, she kept up a steady programme of reading and writing. She found work a distraction, and immediately after Percy's birth wrote her novella *Matilda*, a story of father-daughter incest which remained unpublished until this century.

Maurice was her next story. It was, of course, intended for a child of eleven, as Laurette then was, and told with simplicity and attention to the details a child would find attractive: she wrote of flowers, of the appearance of the seashore and waves, the coral necklace belonging to a stolen child, the preparation of potatoes for a simple meal, the stories told by an old woman, *Goody Two Shoes* and *The Ballad of Chevy Chase*.

At the same time, there is a current of melancholy running through the story. It begins with a funeral. It concerns a child who has lost his parents, and a father who has lost his son.

Through hard years as a farm labourer and working working for a fisherman the boy Henry — who is now called Maurice — remains charming, attractive, pious and good, he says his prayers, is always merry, always at work.

We may wonder that Mary Shelley shows him as unaffected by his harsh and unloving upbringing, since one of the themes of her *Frankenstein* is that the monster is made bad by the ill-treatment he receives. We may also be surprised that the happy ending, when Maurice/Henry is recognised by his true father, shows him being sent to Eton, a school so detested by Shelley. The end is happy for the reunited father and son, but the fisherman's cottage which the boy loved so much is shown falling into ruins. The rain gets into the roof; the walls crumble; and as the years go by it disappears altogether. So the story is coloured by Mary Shelley's melancholy even though she makes it suitable for a child.

When Laurette died, her husband, Professor Tardi of Genoa, went to live with her sister Nerina's family, the Cinis of Pistoia; and it is their direct descendants who have found the story.

Before I left the Dazzis, I was taken to meet Signor Dazzi's mother. She told me she remembered Professor Tardi, who died in 1914, very well. I reflected as I said goodbye that I had shaken the hand of someone who had known the husband of little Laurette — and that Laurette knew Percy Bysshe Shelley in his *annus mirabilis*, when he was writing *The Mask of Anarchy*, the *Ode to a Skylark*, the *Letter to Maria Gisborne* and many other great works. And that she was the recipient of a clear, simple and moving story, stamped by Mary Shelley's particular sensibility, which she had the good sense to value and keep. A hundred and seventy years suddenly seemed quite a short time.

PETER NICHOLLS

Catherine Payling, left, and Claire Tomalin study the manuscript. The story is told with simplicity and detail

The Dazzi palazzo where manuscript was found

A tale of persistence, success and nostalgia

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN SAN *MARCELLO PISTOIESE*

"ONE Sunday afternoon in the month of September a traveller entered the town of Torquay, a seaport on the southern coast of Devonshire. The afternoon was pleasant and warm, and the waves of the sea, slightly agitated by a breeze, sparkled under the sun. The streets of the town were empty......" So begins Mary Shelley's long lost story *Maurice: or the Fisher's Cot.*

The "traveller" is not named; he is, it emerges, the son of an Oxford mathematician who became a noted architect. But he has suffered a tragedy: his only son, Henry, disappeared at the age of two.

While the family were picnicking on the banks of the river, he and his wife went for walk, leaving Henry in the care of the nanny, who fell asleep. When they returned, the boy was gone. "The traveller" has searched high and low in the intervening years.

He is reunited with his son *here after asking the name of* the "beautiful boy, with the sweetest voice in the whole world", who is walking behind the coffin of a local fisherman.

The boy, stolen by a childless woman but treated badly by his stepfather, had been adopted by the old fisherman, when he appeared in the town and announced he had left his parents to find work. Maurice — or Henry — leaves the rough life of the fishing community to return to the family home near Windsor Park. He is educated at Eton, becomes successful and travels abroad, his nostalgic visits to the fisherman's cottage become more infrequent.

One day he returns to find *it has decayed and fallen into* the sea but, undismayed, he builds a new home, sharing it with "a poor fisherman who had fallen into great want and poverty". In memory of his boyish adventure he goes out to sea with the fisherman - although "they did not fish, for they did not like to give *pain to or destroy animals*". They also sit on the rocks to "watch the dancing waves", and to "talk of all the beautiful things they had seen, and would one day see".

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Laser pen attack on policemen in siege

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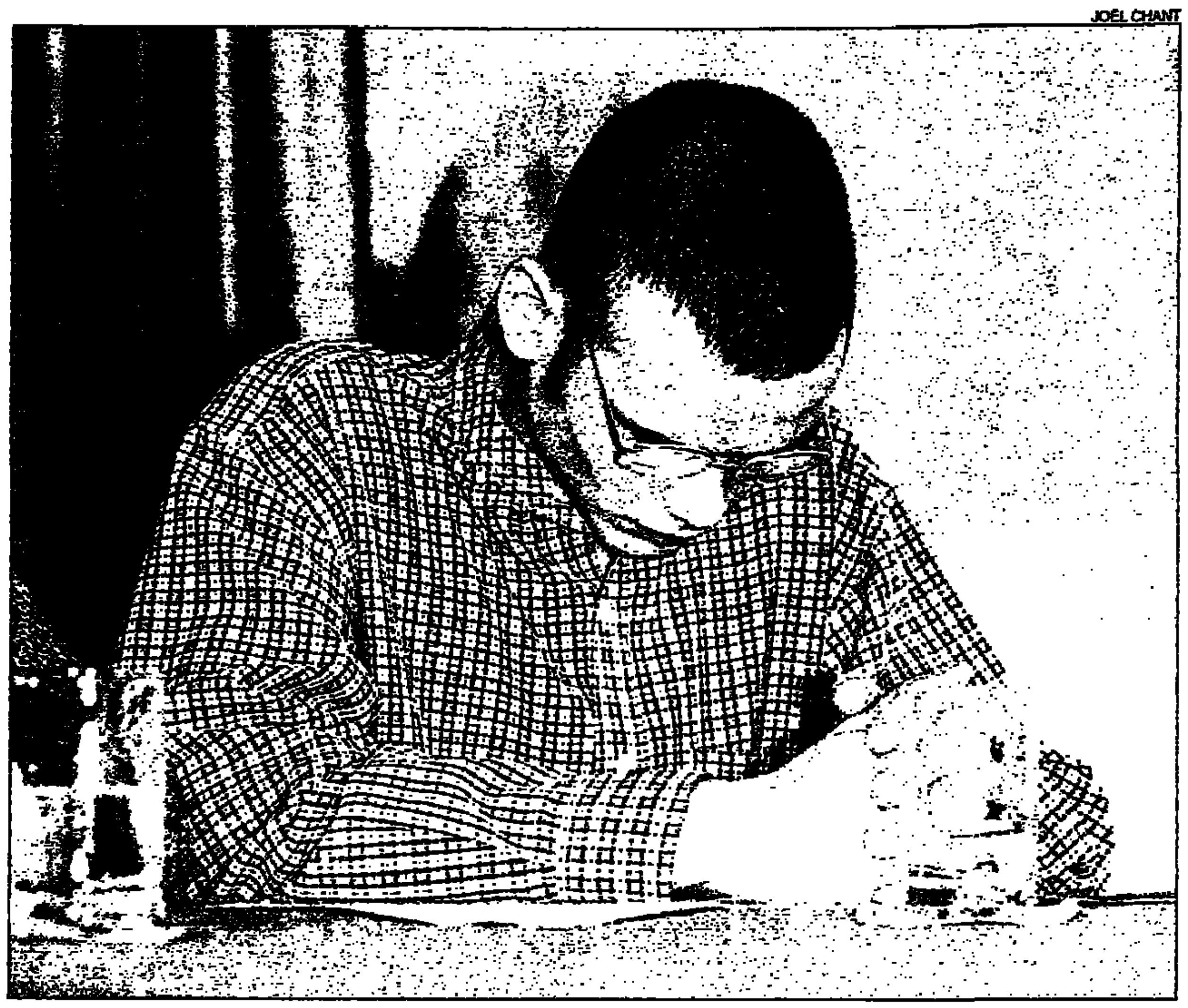
Twin tragedy of family bullied for being nice

A young man has been found hanged two years after his brother was kicked to death, reports **Joanna Bale**

JOEL CHANT



Ian Erskine after the trial of his brother's killers. His mother forecast: "This is not the end"

WHEN Anthony Erskine was kicked to death outside his home by youths tormenting his family, his distraught twin brother pledged to show his respect by never celebrating their birthday again.

Ian Erskine never recovered from his twin's death. Less than two years later, and just a month after his 21st birthday, he has been found dead, hanging from a tree in woodland where they once played together as boys. Police said he left a suicide note near by.

His parents, Harry and Dorothy, and their remaining children Gary, 24, and Natalie, 19, struggled to come to terms with the news yesterday in Clopton, Stratford-Upon-Avon, Warwickshire. At their former council home a family friend said: "Ian never really got over his brother's death. They were twins and they were close. His mother has now lost two sons. The family are very upset."

Michael Powell, 27, a neighbour, added: "They are a nice family, ideal neighbours. They do not deserve any of this."

It was the niceness of the Erskines that made them a target of a hate campaign. It is thought the perpetrators regarded the hard-working, devout Catholic family as snobs and made racist remarks to Mrs Erskine, who was born in Malta. In the months before Anthony's death, all three Erskine sons had been beaten up and their daughter verbally abused. Their hedge had been torched, their car vandalised and their home pelted with eggs, water bombs, stones and bricks.

Anthony was just over seven stone and widely regarded as a kind, gentle youth. He choked to death on his own blood after being repeatedly kicked in the face. Ian wept at a press conference. Vowing never to celebrate his birthday again, he said: "Anthony and I were very close. When he went out, I would always wait up for him and he always did the same for me."

Anthony Erskine: kicked to death

In November last year, Mark Hemmens, 21, was jailed for life for murder and Damian Collins, 16, was ordered to be detained indefinitely. Speaking after the verdict, the twins' mother said they feared reprisals and that Ian had received death threats. "This is not the end, but only another chapter in a terrible nightmare," she said.

Ian left home to live in another part of Stratford and was planning to get married next year. On Friday night police launched a search for him after they were contacted by his family, who were worried at his uncharacteristic disappearance. In the darkness, dog handlers and a helicopter searched the Evesham Cemetery, where Anthony is buried, and woodland at Welcombe Hills, two miles from the cemetery.

The body was found on Saturday morning by a couple walking their dog in the woods. Inspector Richard Woodcock of Warwickshire Police dismissed speculation that Ian Erskine had been subject to more bullying in recent months. An inquest is expected to be opened in the next few days.

Laser pen attack on policemen in siege

By Paul Whittaker

A POLICE constable may suffer permanent damage to his sight after he and two other officers were hurt when a laser pen beam was aimed at their eyes during a siege.

The three constables were taken to hospital after complaining of burning eyes and headaches after the high-intensity pen was allegedly pointed at them as they surrounded a house in Totton, near Southampton, in the early hours of Saturday.

A 25-year-old man has been charged with grevious bodily harm.

Two of the officers were treated for bruising to the front of the eye. The third officer, thought to have had a hole burnt in the rear of his eye, will require further medical treatment.

The incident comes after a string of similar attacks on police, firemen, an airline pilot, a vicar, a bus driver and the pop group Oasis.

Denis MacShane, Labour MP for Rotherham, said he would today seek an emergency statement from Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, urging the pens to be classified as dangerous weapons and confiscated by police.

Spice Girls put girl power to the test

By Carol Midgley
Media Correspondent

THE Spice Girls were about to sign a new manager last night after unceremoniously sacking the man who turned them into multimillionaires in less than a year.

Simon Fuller, known as Svengali Spice, is the man who invented the notion of girl power and orchestrated their every move.

But the all-girl band are said to be suffering from exhaustion and low morale after disappointing sales of their new album *Spiceworld*. They are said to have demanded the appointment of a manager who will take less commission, work them less hard and expose them to fewer commercial promotions. It is understood they are in discussion with First Avenue Management.

Mr Fuller, 36, was on holiday in Rome yesterday, recovering from a bad back. He will receive an estimated £10 million pay-off but is said to be bewildered by the decision.

The five decided to sack him while on safari with their mothers in South Africa. Sources said they were "exhausted, almost hysterical".

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Here is the news but is anybody watching us?

BY CAROL MIDGLEY
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

A NEW BBC channel, costing license payers £30 million a year, was launched on air yesterday with 24-hour news but a limited audience. By day, News 24 is accessible only on cable. At night, it is available on BBC1 between the end of normal transmissions and the start of breakfast programmes.

Executives have been accused of wasting resources on a service not wanted by the public, and diverting money away from flagship news programmes such as *Newsnight* and the *Nine O'Clock News*. As Gavin Esler and Sue Montague introduced News 24 at 6pm, resentment was still simmering among journalists and technicians. Staff working on the rolling news programme said they were bitter about being asked to work longer hours and more weekends without any extra pay, and have been holding union meetings to discuss possible industrial action. Management insisted these were problems which would be ironed out over time.

Yesterday's event, accessible to 2 million cable subscribers, marked the launch of the Corporation's first new channel since the birth of BBC2 33 years ago. Tony Hall, chief executive of BBC News, has insisted on a completely fresh look to distinguish it from other news programmes broadcast on traditional BBC channels.

The walls of the studio, which is in vision at all times, have been painted in red, blue, purple and yellow. An orange sofa and purple carpet completes the funky effect, and presenters are allowed to appear in their shirt sleeves (with cuffs rolled back) for the first time.

The channel has suffered teething problems, and insiders say that not a single pilot programme was completed without the system crashing.

However, News 24 could in time be a formidable force. It belongs to the world's largest news gathering team, and can call upon 250 correspondents across the world — 100 more than its nearest rival CNN. It will feature 15-minute news briefings every hour, following research which suggested the public wanted news "when they want it — not when the broadcasters choose to deliver it".

A Gallup poll found that 44 per cent of people said they would watch it daily if they could have access to it. Mr hall said: "This is an exciting day for news. By launching this service, the BBC is meeting the growing appetite for news on demand, providing licence fee payers with a comprehensive 24-hour news service they are entitled to exoect from a public-service broadcaster."

Many BBC staff and the former war correspondent Martin Bell have openly criticised the new channel, claiming it is unneccessary. The BBC's *Six O'Clock News* round-up regularly appears in its top 20 most popular programmes, averaging audiences of more than six million.

HOW RIVALS COMPARE

NEWS 24

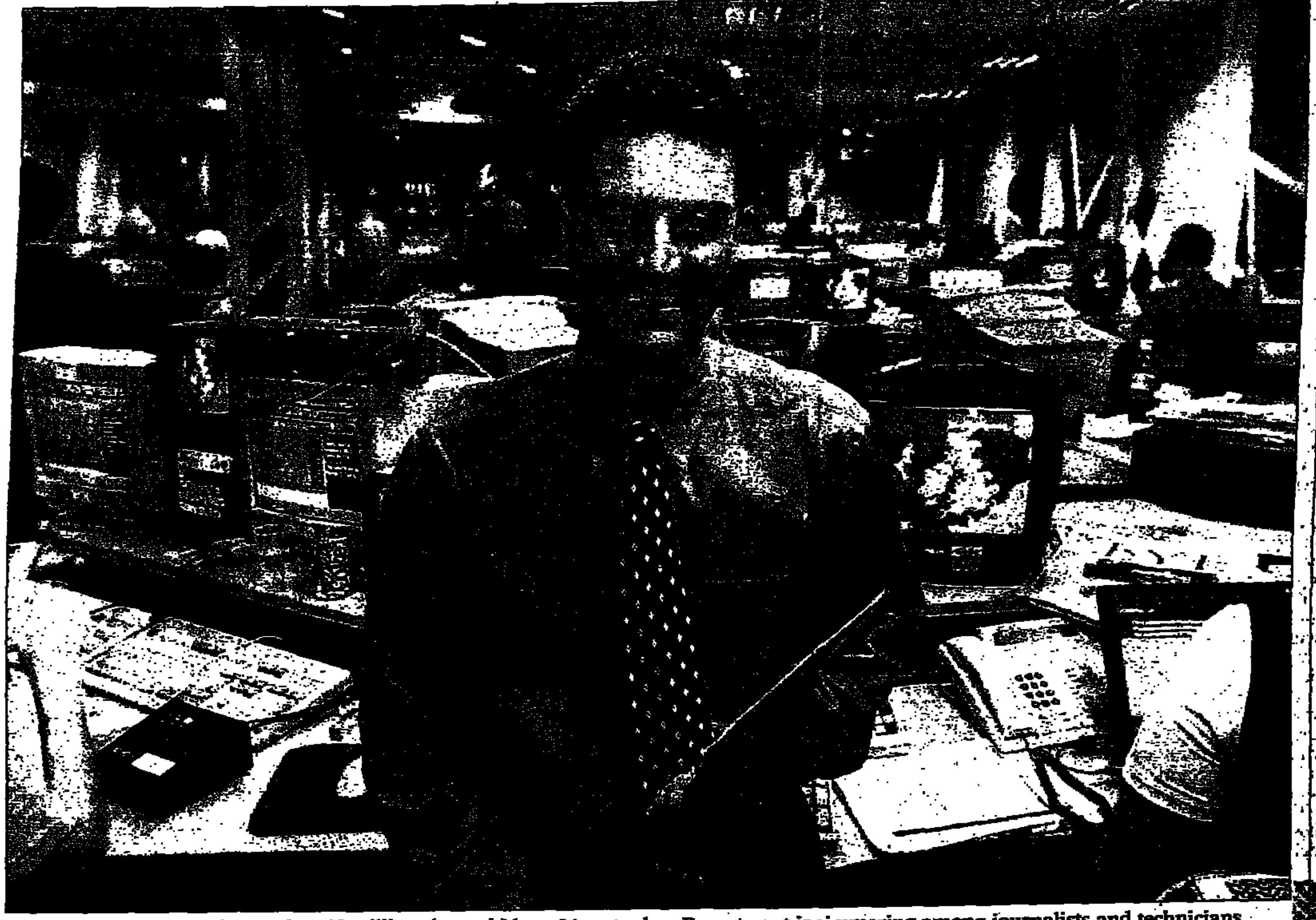
Launched: 1997 (Tony Hall)
Key on-screen staff: Gavin Esler. Sarah Montague (ex Sky)
Overseas bureaux: 42
Correspondents: Can call upon 250 worldwide but is staffed by 100 full-time journalists
Reach: 1.6-2 million cable subscribers. BBC1 overnight

CNN

Launched: 1985
Key on-screen staff: Bernard Shaw Christiane Amanpour
Bureaux: 32 worldwide with studios in Atlanta, London, New York, Washington and Hong Kong
Correspondents: 150
Reach: Approximately 60 million households spread across 220 countries

SKY NEWS

Launched: 1989.
Key on-screen staff: Bob Friend. Kay Burley
Bureaux: 6, also 120 Reuters new bureaux worldwide
Correspondents: 150 (80-90 Sky, rest Reuters or freelance
Reach: 6.4 million homes in UK but claims 70 million viewers across 40 countries



REUTER

Gavin Esler introducing the £30 million channel News 24 yesterday. Resentment is simmering among journalists and technicians

☐ Victims of crime should be offered better protection from the press through an even tougher code of conduct than that agreed by editors in the wake of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, the Culture Secretary Chris Smith said yesterday. This could include formal arrangements to interview those affected on a "pooled" basis.

TV listings, page 51

TV listings, page 51

Shirtsleeve order as Auntie's new channel goes on the air

■ As the BBC's 24-hour news channel begins broadcasting, Joe Joseph takes off his jacket and settles down to current affairs around the clock

IT HAD been such a rush getting everything ready in time for the BBC's 24-hour news channel that poor Gavin Esler didn't even have time to put on his jacket. Other presenters and reporters were without their ties. Then it dawned that all this casualness was part of the current media vogue to dress serious news in dress-down-Friday clothing in the hope viewers might be seduced into thinking that a serious studio discussion about, say, the future of Nato might at any moment bring in the *Spice Girls*.

Esler (button-down, dark blue shirt; striped tie) was a good choice as debut presenter — non-toff's voice with a pleasant, smiley demeanour. The studio we could see behind him and his co-presenter Sarah Montague was a jangle of colour. There were slashes of orange, and blue, and yellow, and red, all over the walls, as if the BBC bosses couldn't make up their mind on the right colour and the decorators had splashed on several test patches of paint to help them towards a decision.

Also visible to viewers were the staff producing the show, which is a disconcerting work environment for most journalists. Assiduous viewers will be able to clock how long everyone takes for lunch, and lip-readers will be able to eavesdrop on newsroom conversations.

But for a round-the-clock news channel promising to bring us "the whole picture, the whole time", it was a jolt to discover that the first image shown on News 24 at 5.30pm was in black and white and showed someone firing a mortar, making one wonder if the "24" in News 24 referred not to 24-hour news, but 1924 news. The voice was Richard Baker's.

But it was just the start of a half-hour programme promoting the new channel. The archive war footage was followed by scenes of Robin Day and Christopher Chataway launching ITN in 1955 and a clip of the BBC's first half-hour news broadcast, presented by John Timpson on BBC2.

Then came interviews with the presenters, with Esler telling us: "We're not going to be stuffy, we're not going to be pompous, we might even be fun."

Another of the presenters — I think it was Brian Hanrahan, although it was hard to tell because the camera filming him was close-up to his mouth and his right nostril — said the great thing was that they would now be able to put in all those bits of a story that normally get left out. Oh dear.

This may be the biggest challenge facing News 24. Teething troubles seemed to have been sorted out by the time Esler came on screen at 6pm with the words, "Hello and welcome for the first time to BBC News 24. I'm Gavin Esler". But there is only so much news in the world. The first report was about the US-Iraq showdown, with Ben Brown reporting from Amman. The second was on the CBI's criticism of William Hague ruling out of a single currency for ten years. The third was the Queen Mother at the Cenotaph. Then all of a sudden it was time for "the headlines at 6.17", which — surprise, surprise — were Iraq, the CBI and the Queen Mother.

Anyone who has watched the BBC will be familiar with most of the faces and the tone of voice. The fact that it was so unsensational was a triumph — although after only 90 minutes yesterday evening, the same items were already on air again.

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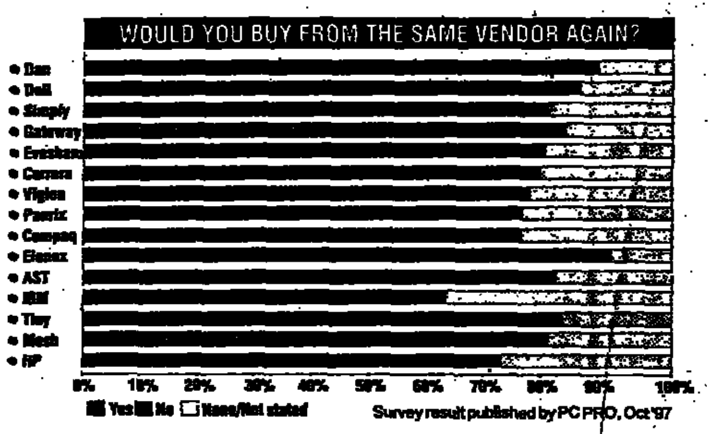
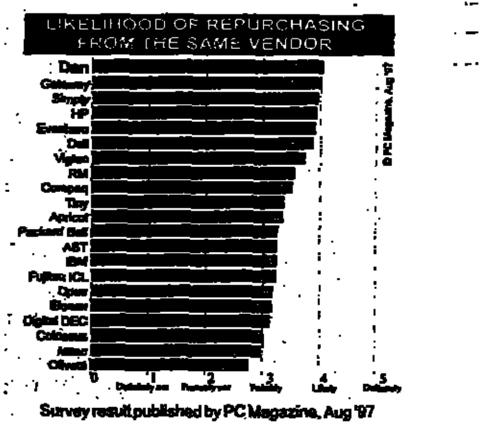


Survey result published by PC PRO, Oct '97



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Insurance firm finds popular cars least safe

By Kevin Eason, motoring editor

DEATHS in car crashes could be halved if buyers spurned models with poor safety records, according to Europe's most detailed study of road accidents.

A league table drawn up by scientists at Folksam, a Swedish insurance company that has studied road safety for 27 years, makes horrific reading for drivers of some of the most popular cars.

Folksam claims they are also the most dangerous. The Renault 5, Citroen AX, Honda Civic made up to 1995, Ford Fiesta (up to 1988), Nissan Micra (up to 1991), Volkswagen Polo (to 1994) and the current Renault Clio — all cars which have sold in huge numbers — are on Folksam's danger list.

The risk of being killed in those least safe cars is 20 times higher than models in the safest class. The league table of 71 models shows large, executive cars are 40 per cent safer than average, with clear winners including the Saab 9000, new BMW 5-series and Volvo 700 and 800 models.

Folksam's safest rated car is the Audi 100 and new A6, which, scientists say, is 55 per cent safer than average. But the price of driving safely does not mean spending as much as £30,000 for the strength and security of a large car.

Folksam's scientists say that the risk of death or disabling injury doubles each time motorists move down one safety class in their league table of five categories, compiled after studying the results of more than 26,000 accidents.

Buying a car one safety category higher would halve the number of deaths caused in two-car collisions. Vauxhall's Corsa and the Peugeot 205 are in the same class by size as the AX, Clio and Fiesta but score 20 per cent better.

The Ford Escort is ranked for size with the Civic but is also one category higher. The Vauxhall Vectra and Volkswagen Passat score top marks as 40 per cent safer than average.

The Ford Mondeo and British-built Nissan Primera are in the second highest category, 20 per cent safer than average.

Anders Kullgren, Folksam's head of traffic research, said: "We are not trying to persuade people to spend large amounts of money on the biggest cars which undoubtedly have the best safety record. But car buyers can spend their money wisely and make a judgment that they want a car with the best safety records."

The company is fitting black box recorders to more than 80,000 cars in Sweden to record the final moments of a crash to try to discover whether designers could make fundamental changes to their models.

☐ Serious whiplash injuries have jumped 40 per cent, defying attempts by carmakers to make their models safer. While the introduction of stiffer, stronger seats and tough seat belts have reduced injuries to the chest, legs and head, they are causing more whiplash.

Because the occupant's body is held tight to the rigid seat on impact, the head "whips" back and forward, damaging the spine, according to Folksam.

BEST

Audi 100/A6
BMW 5-series (from 1988)
Citroen XM
Mercedes 200/300 (to 1985)
Saab 9000
Volvo 700/800/900

WORST

Honda Civic (1988-95)
Citroen AX
Ford Fiesta (1976-88)
Nissan Micra (1983-91)
Renault 5
Renault Clio
VW Polo (to 1994)

Wider motorways blamed for jams

By Arthur Leathley, transport correspondent

TRAFFIC congestion on a widened section of the M25 is now greater than before the improvement took place, a motoring survey suggests.

The widening of a stretch of the motorway at junction 15, west of London, was intended to curb congestion, but the survey showed that jams on the stretch were now commonplace, although last year traffic was generally free-flowing.

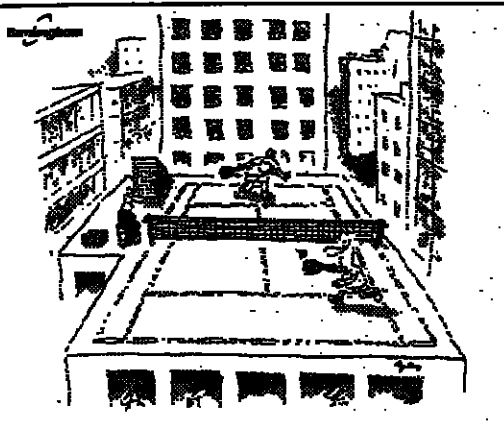
The survey by Trafficmaster, which relays electronic traffic information to drivers, suggests that last year saw a 5 per cent increase in motorway congestion, the highest increase since the company began its research in 1990. A project to link the M6 and M42, near Birmingham with a toll road is also criticised for drawing more traffic.

The Queen Elizabeth II Bridge that takes the M25 over the Thames between Essex and Kent has also brought a large increase in traffic.

In 1991, when the bridge opened, 130,000 vehicles used the strtech of motorway which suffered high congestion. The figure is already 160,000.

The motorway congestion index, which covers July to September 1997, shows that 1.2 million motorists were caught in motorway jams on an average day.

Leading article, page 23



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MARTIN BEDDALL

Geoffrey Sundquist and the reindeer from the story. "Christmas was always very special to us as children," he said

Childhood memory fathers Christmas hit

By Carol Midgley

WORLDWIDE TV audiences are to share a new festive story, because a novice writer reached back into his childhood memories to cope with the death of his brother.

The £500,000 cartoon *Father Christmas and The Missing Reindeer*, featuring the voice of David Jason, will be on ITV in the peaktime slot after the Queen's Speech, and has been sold to 20 countries from Scandinavia to Australia.

It is based on a new book whose writer, Geoffrey Sundquist, 41, from Chorlton, Manchester, began it while mourning his brother Gerry, a film and stage actor who became a heroin user and threw himself under a train in 1993 at the age of 38. Mr Sundquist, who works for an advertising company, said: "Christmas was always very special to us as children, so I wrote it in memory of that. There was something missing in my life, so I came upon the idea of Father Christmas finding the reindeer missing on Christmas Eve, and has to find them to get the presents delivered. When I had written the book, I took it to HarperCollins not really knowing what to expect, but they loved it."

It has been filmed by the Manchester animation studio Cosgrove Hall, less than a mile from where the brothers grew up. Andrew Macbean, the chief executive, said: "It is a wonderful Christmas story."

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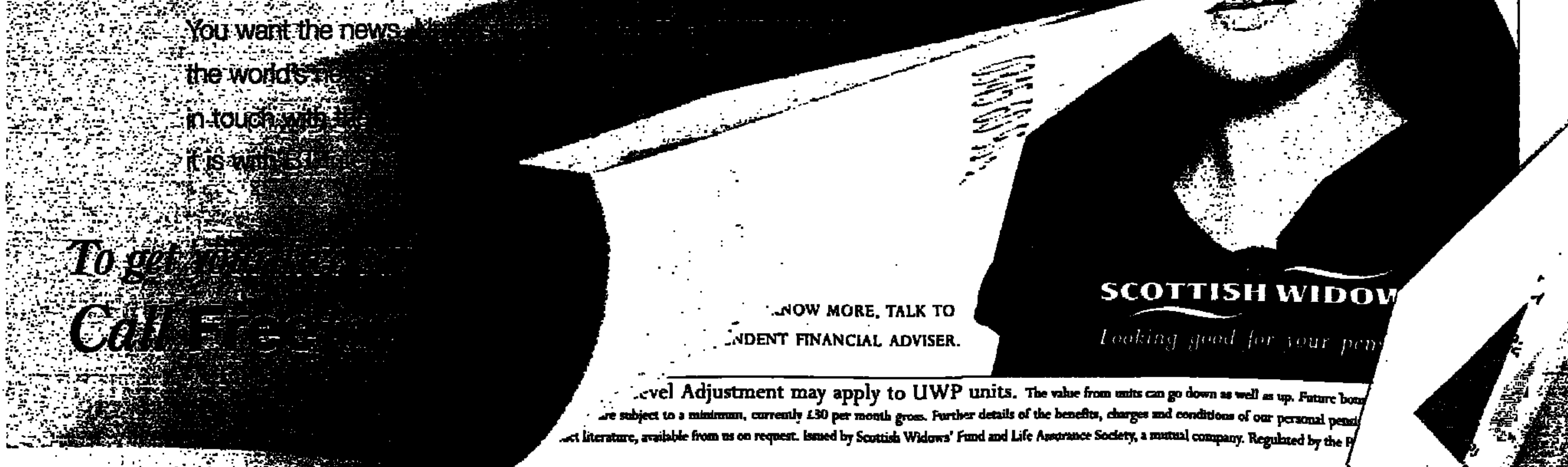

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MI5 opens war files but keeps its agents secret

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

THE release of MI5 files held in archives since the foundation of the Security Service in 1909 is expected to provide proof that, before and during the First World War, German spies were operating on a much larger scale than previously recorded.

The files, dated from 1909 to 1919, are being handed over to the Public Record Office at Kew. However, MI5 has excised the names of agents recruited from outside the Security Service because it never identifies those who have offered their help in countering espionage, terrorism and subversion. The previously top secret files name field and desk officers because they were full-time employees.

MI6 has the same policy. At a unique press conference at the Foreign Office in 1993, Sir Colin McColl, then Chief of the Secret Intelligence Service (MI6), said: "Secrecy is our stock in trade, it is our most precious asset. People come and work for us, risk their lives for us sometimes, risk their jobs often, because they believe that SIS is a secret service. I am very anxious that I should be able to send some sort of signal to these people that we are not going to open up everything, we are not going to open up our files, we are not going to allow ourselves to be undressed in public with their name as part of our baggage."

MI6 has not opened up its archives but now that MI5 has decided to do so for the first time, Stephen Lander, Director-General of the Security Service, has made it clear that he intends to follow the same principle of protecting agents.

MI5 was not formed under its present name until January 1916 but in 1909 Captain Vernon Kell, known as "K", and Captain Mansfield Cumming, "C", established the Secret Service Bureau to consider the dangers from German espionage to British naval ports.

The release of files from MI5 archives will take place next Monday. Preparations began about two years ago and discussions were held with Sir Robin Butler, the Cabinet Secretary, and with other government departments and intelligence agencies that could be affected. It is expected that about 98 per cent of the files from the 1909-19 period will be released. It is planned to release a second batch of top secret files covering the Second World War next year.

The records of MI5 operations between the wars, when Security Service staffing levels were cut from about 2,000 to only 11 officers, will remain classified for the moment but will be included in a third batch to be released, possibly at the end of next year or in 1999.

These files will include some of the more fascinating historical documents, including the famous Zinoviev letter written by Grigori Zinoviev, head of Moscow's Communist International (Comintern), to the British Communist Party in 1924.

In the letter Zinoviev called on the Communist Party to "stir up the masses of the British proletariat" and to mobilise sympathetic forces in the Labour Party. The letter was leaked by British intelligence to the *Daily Mail* whose lurid headlines about a civil war plot by the Socialists' masters in Moscow on the eve of the 1924 general election swept the Labour Government of Ramsay MacDonald out of office.

Ever since, there has been controversy over whether the letter was a forgery, drawn up by the intelligence services to undermine the Labour Government and to ensure a landslide Conservative victory. The Zinoviev letter, false or not, is lying in a file in the MI5 basement archives. Some senior people in the intelligence services today are convinced it was genuine.

The wartime files largely consist of histories written internally. The majority of files and documents relating to the two world wars were destroyed as part of a general policy to get rid of those no longer deemed relevant. However, before they were destroyed, senior MI5 officials were delegated to compile a proper history of operations. MI5 stopped destroying files in 1972 and began storing everything in the archives. However, selective destruction began again in 1992.

MI6 man claims political status

A FORMER MI6 officer who has been charged under Section One of the Official Secrets Act will appear for the second time at Bow Street Magistrates Court today.

Richard Tomlinson, 34, an intelligence officer who served in Bosnia and Moscow, has been on remand since his first court appearance a week ago. In a letter to *The Sunday Times* from Belmarsh high security prison in southeast London, the category A prisoner claimed that he was a political prisoner and was looking forward to exposing MI6's "hypocrisy, dishonesty and mismanagement".

At last week's court appearance Owen Davies, Mr Tomlinson's counsel, said he had been charged under the Official Secrets Act after sending a synopsis of a book about his operational experiences in MI6 to a publisher in Sydney, Australia.

In a separate investigation Milosh Stankovic, a major from the Parachute Regiment, known by colleagues as Mike Stanley, has been arrested on suspicion of passing information to the Serbs in Bosnia.

TIM CUFF

Caroline Walker, head of the secondary school that uses a former chapel in Devon. She and a colleague teach a total roll of 30 pupils

Mini-school asks for maximum help

By David Charter
Education Correspondent

A TINY rural secondary school, set up by an ecology guru admired by the Prince of Wales, will this week seek government funding to safeguard its future.

Stephen Byers, the School Standards Minister, has agreed to meet a delegation from the Small School in Hartland, Devon, which is run by two teachers for 30 children. It was established on a shoestring by the Indian thinker Satish Kumar, to save youngsters in the sparsely populated area from long journeys to their nearest comprehensive.

Mr Kumar, 60, who runs nearby Schumacher College, a centre for ecological studies that includes the Dalai Lama and Anita Roddick among its patrons, says that the Small School needs an extra source of funds. "The Government says education is its top priority and we think it should support schools which may not meet the criteria of bigness but do meet the criteria of standards," Mr Kumar said.

Children at the school, which was set up 15 years ago in a former Methodist church, cover the ten subjects in the national curriculum but also many more, he said. Their study of crafts and cookery extends to preparing their school dinners every day. Parents pay no fees and are asked for a minimal donation.

This summer there were ten GCSE candidates, six of whom passed at least five subjects with A to C grades. Mr Kumar shares the view of the alternative economist E. F. Schumacher, the author of *Small Is Beautiful*, after whom the adult college is named. Mr Kumar's own teachings on "sharing and serving" communities have taken him to Highgrove for discussions with the Prince.

Colin Hodgetts, one of two teachers who will meet Mr Byers at the Department for Education and Employment tomorrow, said that research from America showed that small schools had less truancy and bad behaviour.

"We have survived since 1982 on begging and donations. One of the failings in the education system is that not enough research is done," he said. "All we ask is to be funded at the rate of the local comprehensive for three years and for a university to monitor how it works."

A spokesman for the Department of Education and Employment said that the only state funding for independent schools came under the Assisted Places Scheme for children from low-income families, which is being phased out. He added: "I could not pre-empt the discussions."

LEWIS COMES OUT FIGHTING FOR INNER-CITY COLLEGE

LENNOX LEWIS, the WBC World Heavyweight champion, is fighting for money from Britain's most embattled education authority to keep his "last chance" college alive (David Charter writes).

The boxer has spent more than £5 million establishing Lennox Lewis College in the inner London borough of Hackney. For the past year the college has provided vocational courses for problem teenagers from across London, most of whom were expelled from other schools. After two failed bids for National Lottery funds, Lewis, right, has asked Hackney council for money. He promised to fund the college for three years at about £1 million a year but has been advised to pull out because no other sources of money have been found.

The council cannot afford to bail out the college but, in a rare display of unity, the four political factions agreed to help his search for extra cash. Sarah Ebanja, director for education and youth, said: "We have to have facilities where kids who cannot be educated in a mainstream school can go."

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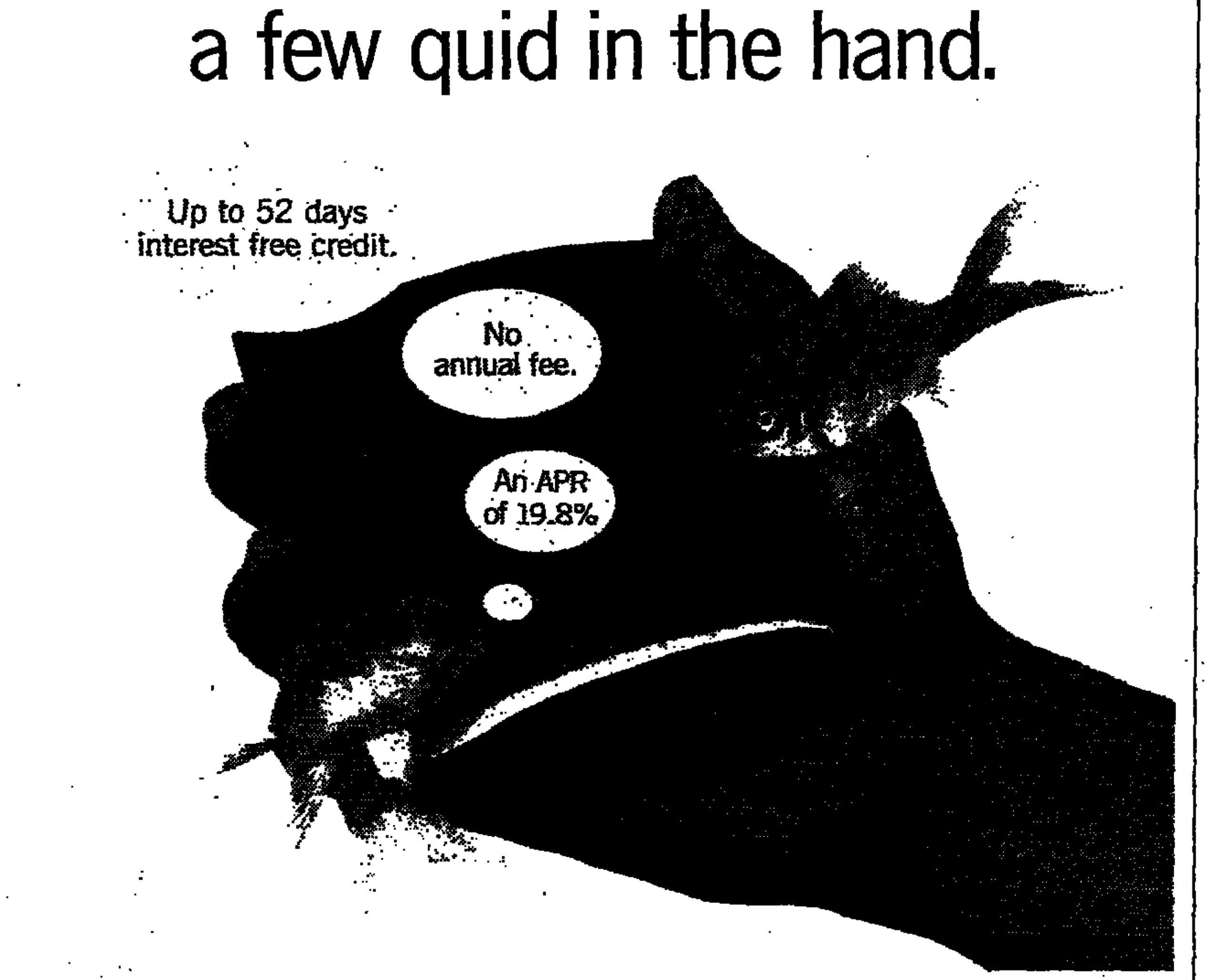

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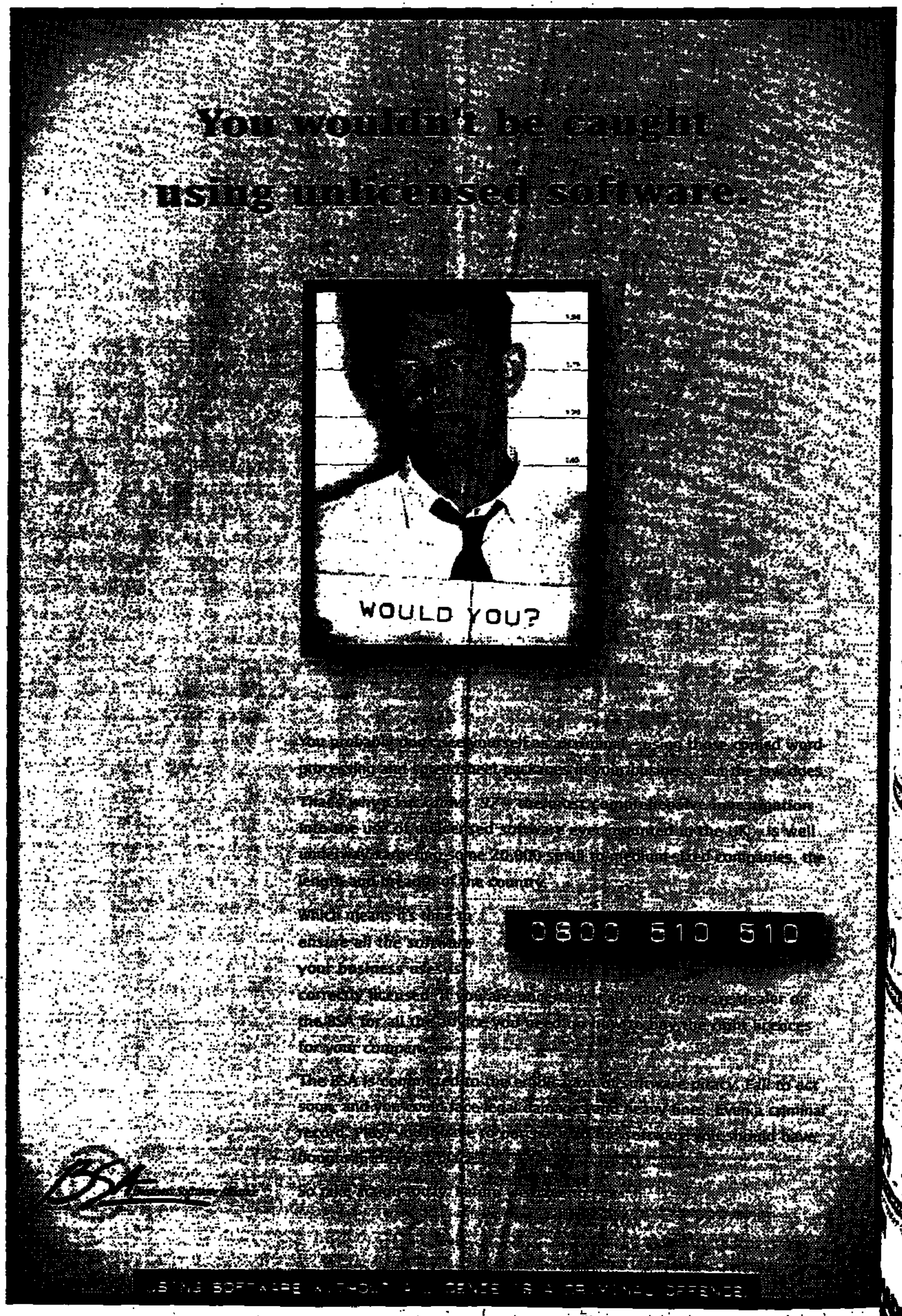

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Memories of war dead undimmed by time

'Veteran' royal returns to a blustery Whitehall to see traditional wreath laying as 10,000 remember fallen comrades. **Alan Hamilton** reports

THE QUEEN led the nation's annual act of remembrance at the Cenotaph yesterday, stirring memories that squally rain and a sharp, gusting wind could not quench.

After the major celebrations two years ago that marked the 50th anniversaries of VE and VJ Days, it was feared that commemoration of those who fell in the century's conflicts would fade into history. Not so. Yesterday's wreath laying mustered up a parade of 10,000 proud and bemedalled veterans paying homage to their former comrades.

War does not end, and since 1945 some 6,000 British serviceman have died in action in conflicts from Malaya to the Falklands, Borneo to Korea, Belfast to Kuwait. There has *been only one year — 1968 — in* which no British serviceman died on active service.

The oldest veteran in Whitehall was also the most familiar. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, 97 and absent from the ceremony for the past three years, watched from a balcony at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, accompanied by Prince Edward, the Princess Royal and her husband, Captain Timothy Laurence.

On an adjoining balcony stood Cherie Blair and the three Blair children, Nicholas, Euan, and Kathryn, who in T-shirts were virtually the only *people at the heart of the* service not dressed in either military uniform or solemn black. They did, however, sport poppies.

As Big Ben tolled eleven, Whitehall fell silent, the stillness broken only by the sound of the chill autumn wind in the plane trees. The Queen, in black, *stood motionless in the* rain. As the buglers of the RAF sounded *The Last Post*, she stepped forward to lay her wreath, followed by the Duke *of Edinburgh, the Prince of* Wales and the Duke of York, all in naval uniform, and the Duke of Kent in Army greatcoat.

For Tony Blair, who followed, it was his first wreath laying as Prime Minister. He was watched by Gordon Brown, George Robertson and other members of the Cabinet. *William Hague, who had not* previously taken part, even in opposition, laid the Conservatives' wreath.

Other political leaders, including Paddy Ashdown and David Trimble, took their turn, watched by three veter*ans from another* battlefield, Baroness Thatcher, John Major and Sir Edward Heath.

Prayers from the Bishop of London were followed by the entire gathering singing *Oh God Our Help In Ages Past*, accompanied by the massed bands of the Household Division. As the Queen and other members of the Royal Family left the Cenotaph, the bands struck up more cheerful airs and the sea of veterans that had filled Whitehall almost to Trafalgar Square began to *move forward* to the applause of a substantial crowd, led by *bowler hatted, retired officers* with their furled umbrellas under their arms in what is colloquially know among old sweats as the sand dance *position*.

In past years the waiting veterans have complained that, from their holding position further up Whitehall, *they were unable to see the* Queen and other dignitaries lay their wreaths. Yesterday the Home Office provided them with a giant video screen *installed on the lawn outside* the Ministry of Defence.

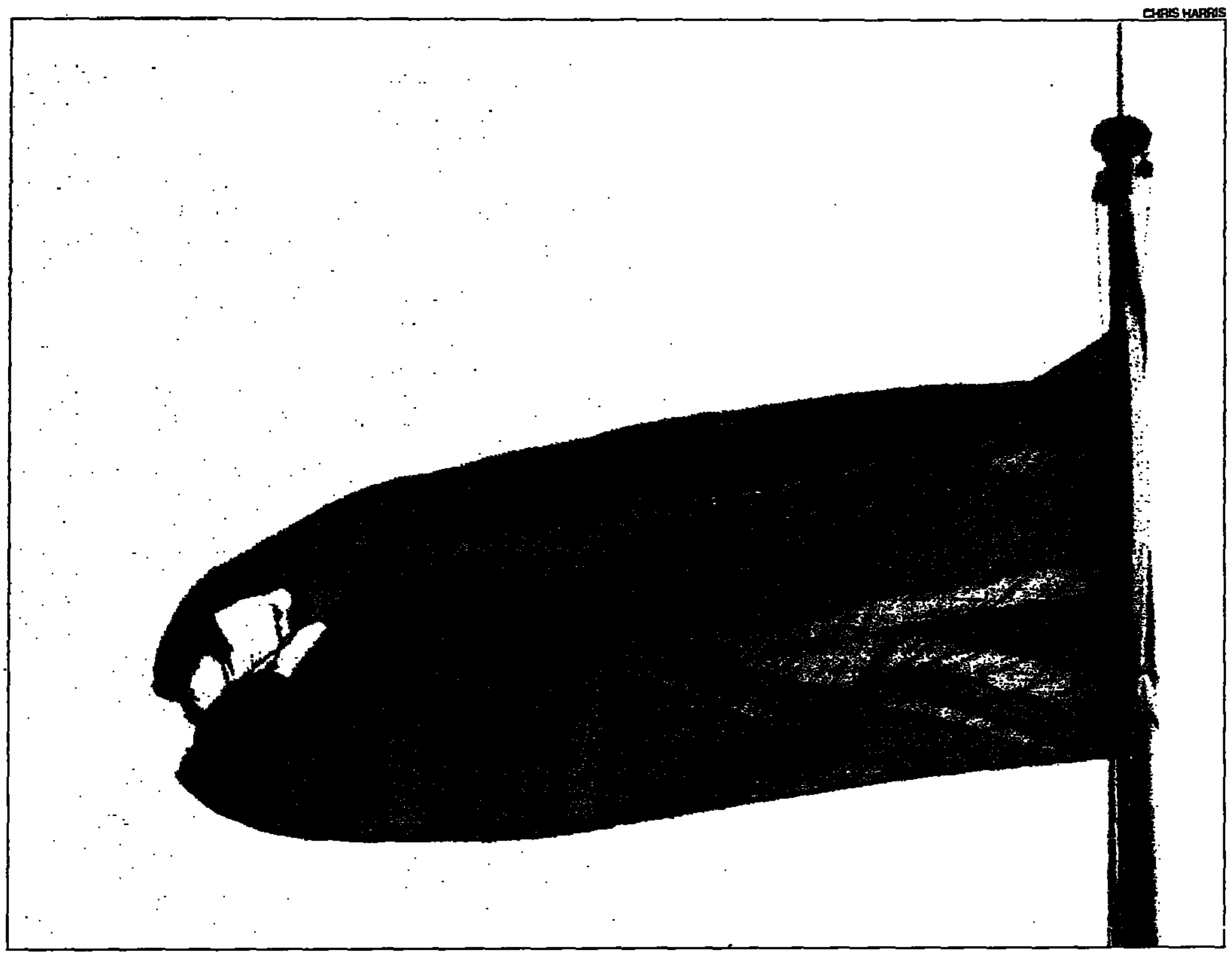
Old soldiers fade away, but the numbers attending the Remembrance Sunday parade *remain remarkably constant*. Although the rules restrict participation to bona fide former serviceman, they have been relaxed since 1990 to *allow war widows to join the* march. In future years, according to the Royal British Legion, as yet more veterans pass away, consideration *might be given to allowing* their children to take part.

But for the moment the veterans themselves remain a substantial force to the extent *that the Legion still spends* £27 million a year on their welfare, a figure that is unlike*ly to deminish at least until* 2010. Yesterday's act of homage seems set to survive well into the next century.

☐ Wreaths from Mr Blair and *Mo Mowlam, the Ulster* Secretary, were laid at the Cenotaph in Enniskillen, where 11 people died in the IRA bombing 10 years ago.

☐ *Mary McAleese, Ireland's* President-elect, joined a Royal British Legion Remembrance Day service in Dublin but did not wear a poppy.

☐ *The Chinese red flag flew* over Hong Kong's cenotaph as the police band played the Chinese national anthem and a bugler blew *The Last Post*. Elderly British veterans stood to attention as wreath after wreath of poppies were laid.


CHRIS HARRIS

The ragged flag after it had been raised the right way. A Ministry of Defence official apologised but said he did not know about the hole

Ministry's flag angers veterans

By Joanna Bale

VETERANS were angered at the sight of a tatty Union Flag flying upside down over the Ministry of Defence yesterday as they marched past the Cenotaph.

John Nichol, 33, an airman who was captured and tortured by the Iraqis during the *Gulf War*, said: "All the veterans I was with were livid about it. Not only was it upside down, it was a dirty old thing with a hole in the middle."

"Batch" Batchelor, who was a prisoner of war during the Second World War and received the Distinguished Flying Medal, said: "My dead comrades will be turning in their graves."

A spokesman for the Ministry of Defence apologised. "One of our flags was flying incorrectly this morning. This was a genuine mistake which was spotted by one of our own people and rectified immediately," he said. "We had quite a few calls about it and we are very sorry if we caused upset to anyone."

However he said that he did not know that the flag had a hole in it. "The flags take a lot of wear and tear and they are replaced routinely. We will have a look at it."

Mr Nichol, a flight lieutenant, was shot down in his RAF Tornado bomber with his pilot John Peters in 1991. They were paraded on Iraqi television. He took voluntary redundancy from the RAF 18 months ago and is publishing his third book, a novel titled *Vanishing Point*, on Thursday.

Nichol: the marchers were livid, he said

Millions will mark Armistice in silence

By Rory Carroll

MUCH *of the country will* come to a halt on the stroke of eleven tomorrow when more people than ever before are expected to observe the Armistice Day two-minute silence. Support from Tony Blair and the Spice Girls has added *momentum to the Royal* British Legion's campaign for all individuals and businesses to pause in tribute to the war dead.

For the first time all the major stores, including Safeway, Boots and John Lewis, will fall silent on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month — to mark the moment when the First World War ended.

More than 160 companies and organisations, including the London Stock Exchange, Railtrack and BAA — which runs Britain's major airports — have *promised to observe* the silence along with the CBI and the TUC.

Toyota UK will become the first Japanese-owned com*pany to participate* and will be joined by the South Korean manufacturers Daewoo and Hyundai. Work will also stop at Vauxhall, Rover and Ford.

Law courts, councils, schools and universities and BBC1, Radios 2 and 4 and BBC local radio stations will mark the silence.

An estimated seven out of ten people at home will make their mark of respect and more than 100 local authorities will follow tradition and fire maroon rockets to mark the start of the tribute.

Tony Blair will be joined by William Hague, the Conservative Party leader, and Paddy Ashdown, leader of the Liberal Democrats.

"I am pleased to hear that the Legion is again mounting a public awareness campaign," Mr Blair said. "I will be keeping the silence both on Remembrance Sunday and on *Armistice Day*. *I hope and* expect millions of others will do the same and that they will be occasions full of dignity, respect and honour."

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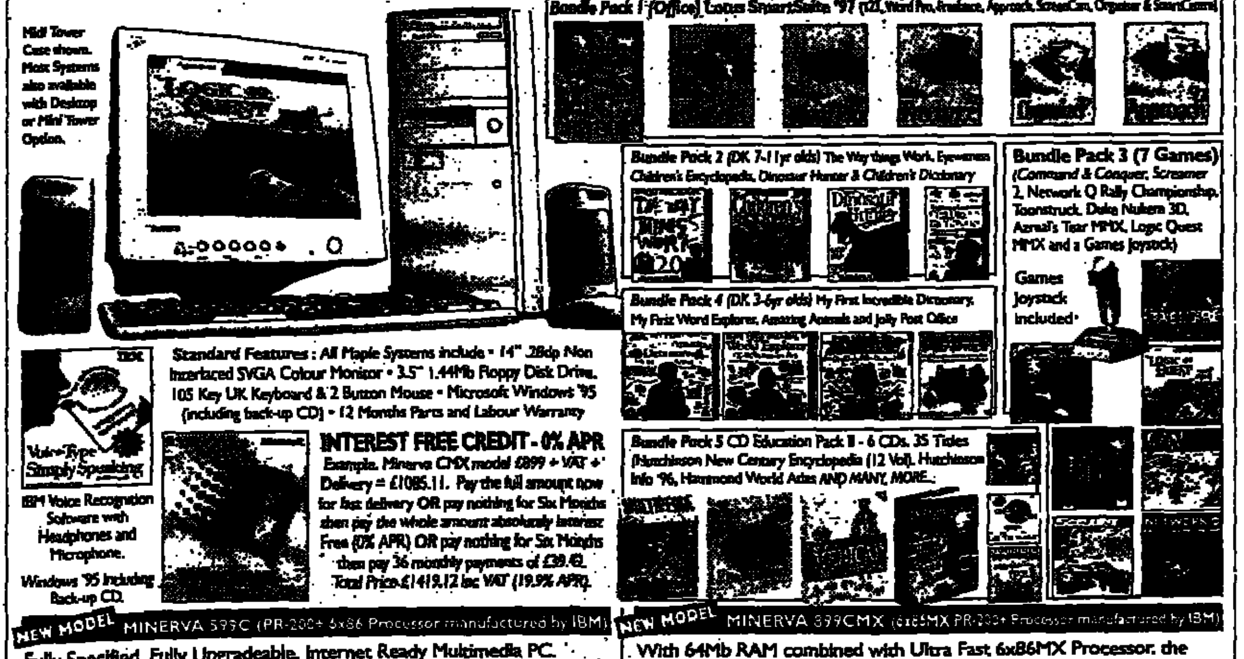
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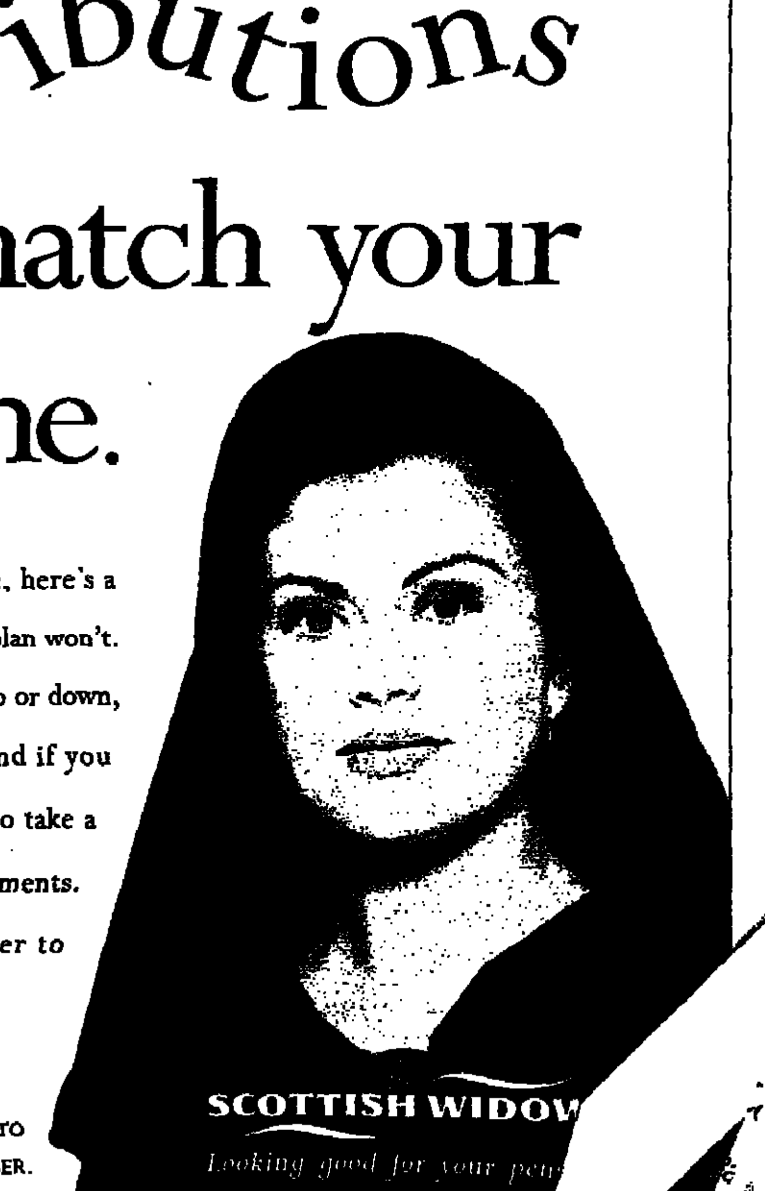
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Plastics disease threatens to melt museum collections

Space suits and dolls are falling victim to chemical meltdown linked to age, writes

Nick Nuttall

MIKE WILKINSON

Anita Quye examines a Morris Minor steering wheel with plastic fatigue. Even synthetic dresses are affected

A "DISEASE" that destroys plastic is worrying museum curators as parts of their collections melt before their eyes. The chemical reactions were first noticed in plastic dolls of the 1950s but have now appeared in early space suits, one of the world's most important comb collections, the steering wheels of classic cars and clothes by the Queen's dress designer.

The decay, in materials long considered indestructible, causes them to drip a sticky substance, emit a vinegary odour and flake or crack. Anita Quye of the National Museums of Scotland, an expert on the problem, said that in Edinburgh plastics used in a tractor built in the 1920s were cracking, as was the steering wheel on a 1960s Morris Minor.

"We have a dress by Norman Hartnell, the Queen's designer, from the late 1930s. The dress is made from rayon, a synthetic fibre. But some of the sequins are starting to flake away in layers. It turns out they are synthetic fibres too," Dr Quye said.

Studies by the museum, in collaboration with the University of Strathclyde's chemistry department and backed by organisations including the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, have been trying to unravel the causes.

Dr Quye said old plastics, some of which were first made 130 years ago, were affected in different ways depending on their composition. The studies have focused mainly on cellulose nitrate, a plastic used to simulate tortoiseshell and ivory.

High-tech analysis using techniques such as X-ray fluorescence have shown that degradation is linked to the level of sulphur impurities. Zinc oxide, used in some plastics such as fake ivory, helps to protect the plastics.

The scientists are studying conditions that trigger the process. "We want to identify safe environmental situations for the plastic and develop a simple test to show which items are at risk," Dr Quye said. Research is also focusing on cellulose acetate, used to make old dolls.

Some collectors and museums have reported so-called plastic doll syndrome, which appears to be the result of a reaction between acids in the plastics and metals used to hold the dolls' eyes and other parts together. The acid vapours released can infect other dolls near by. The research is being supported by Robert Bolle of the French company Bolle Plastics, according to *The Chemical Engineer* magazine, published by the Institution of Chemical Engineers. About 60 years ago the firm was heavily involved in making combs from plastic which form part of the Comb Museum in Oyonnax, in southeast France.

In the United States the Smithsonian Institution has been finding problems with the rubbers and polyurethane foams used in space suits. "The recommendation is to keep them in sub-zero temperatures in oxygen-free chambers, hardly easy conditions to maintain," said Dr Quye, who has set up the Historical Plastics Research Scientists' group to study the problem.

Other items suffering include early Barbie dolls and *Star Wars* plastic figures, made when the film was first launched in the mid-1970s. This can prove distressing for collectors because the figures, in original packaging, can fetch over £200 at auction.

Concern about plastics disease has prompted other musuems in Britain to study their collections. The Tate Gallery in London is looking at modern paints, such as acrylics and resins, to see if artworks are at risk.

Tom Learner of the Tate's conservation department said: "It is not because we see them deteriorating rapidly but because we are trying to predict what might happen."

The Victoria and Albert Museum have discovered some problems with plastic artefacts in the Theatre Musuem and with 1920s objects made from cellulose nitrate and some modern furniture made from polyurethanes. The Royal College of Art is to look at the ageing of modern synthetic fibres.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Inquiry into cancer lawsuits

One of Britain's leading teaching hospitals, Guy's and St Thomas', in south London, has launched an investigation after several patients complained that doctors failed to identify breast tumours and delayed life-saving breast cancer treatment. Three women have started legal action against the hospital trust. A hospital spokesman said that the three cases were unrelated.

Letters, page 23

Lorry blockade

Gilbert Goulois, 45, a Frenchman whose lorry stuck beneath a railway bridge at Yarnbrook, Wiltshire, was disqualified for two years and fined £100 at Trowbridge for being three times over the drink-drive limit.

Murder appeal

Learco Chindamo, 17, the gang leader who was ordered to be detained indefinitely for killing the headmaster Philip Lawrence in Maida Vale, West London, is appealing against his conviction today.

Pricey trip

Jewellery worth about £40,000 was stolen from cases left in a car parked at the Tesco superstore in Whitstable, Kent, police said. Two men were seen leaving the area in a stolen car that was found abandoned later..

Pen gun seized

A Russian sailor tried to exchange a James Bond-style pen gun at shops in Falmouth, Cornwall, for a television set. The metal barrel unscrews to take a .22 bullet. Customs officers boarded a Russian ship to seize the gun.

Crop for sale

A bamboo riding crop carried during the First World War by Field Marshal Earl Haig is expected to fetch up to £1,200 at an auction at Spink's, London, on December 17. The crop bears a silver band inscribed "Gen Haig".

Policeman attacked

A POLICEMAN from the same unit as the murdered WPC Nina Mckay was knocked out with a claw hammer yesterday.

Members of the Territorial Support Group's 3 Area unit were among officers called to a maisonette in Old Ford, East London, after a man smashed windows and threw furniture into the street. The man hit the 36-year-old officer on his helmet before jumping off a balcony. The injured officer was recovering in hospital last night. A man has been charged with causing grievous bodily harm.

WPC Mckay was stabbed to death during a police raid last month. *(PA News)*

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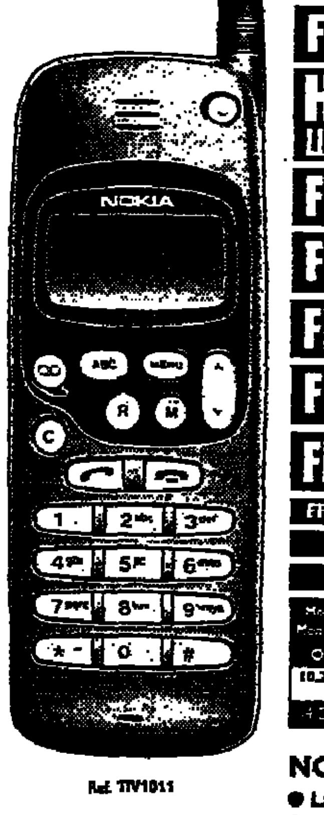

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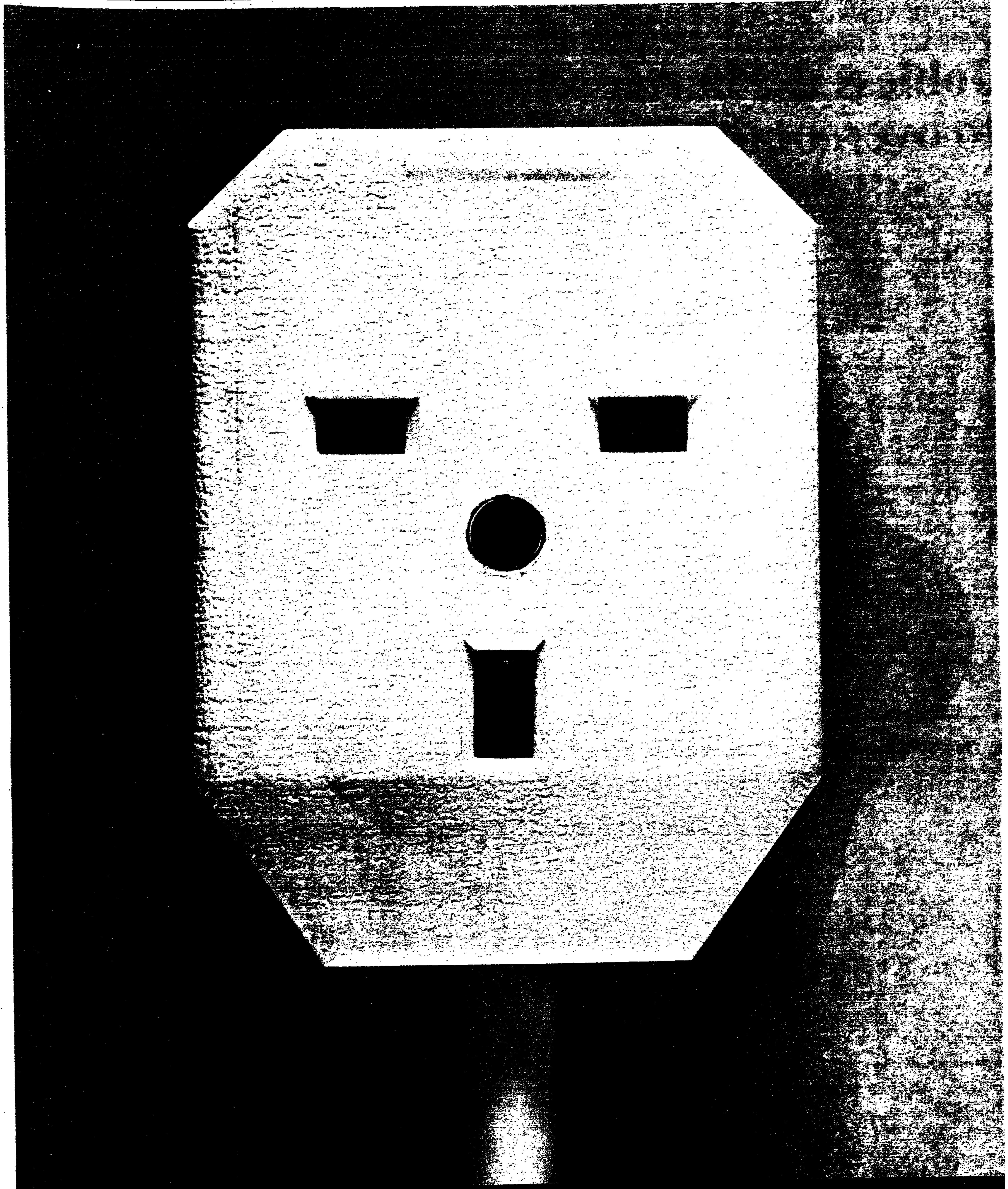

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Jobless use barter schemes to overcome benefits rules

By Mark Henderson

Using a barter scheme honestly: Tom Wilcox, John Rhodes and Maggie Mills

AN ANCIENT method of trading is creating a new problem for the benefits system. Benefits experts are calling on the Social Security Department to stop people working long hours in sophisticated barter schemes while claiming income support.

The rapidly growing schemes, known as local exchange trading systems reward work with credits in a local "currency". More than 40,000 people are involved in nearly 450 systems in Britain and Ireland, more than ten times the 1992 figures. A third of members are unemployed, rising to 70 per cent in some areas, says a report by Jonathan Croall of the Gulbenkian Foundation.

Participants trade services ranging from accountancy to gardening and babysitting in return for the local currency, which can in turn be redeemed for goods and services offered by other members. Most currencies have colourful names: Bath trades in "olivers", Manchester in "bobbins" and Scunthorpe in "pigs".

One of the oldest and most active projects is at Stroud, Gloucestershire, where nearly 500 of the 15,000 residents are members.

Transactions are settled with a printed chequebook dealing in the Stroud pound, or "Stroud", and completed cheques are added to or subtracted from a member's account. Members often pay partly in cash, usually to cover raw materials that cannot be bought through systems.

Maggie Mills, who runs an organic restaurant, accepts up to 50 per cent Strouds for dinners costing about £13. Her customers include Alice Friend, a Canadian alternative therapist, who charges half cash and half Strouds. Tim Wilcox, a therapist and handyman, is a regular customer of Mrs Friend, paying as much as he can through the scheme. He is building an extension for John Rhodes, a tree surgeon, who will pay half the bill in Strouds. Mr Rhodes recently accepted 30 per cent in Strouds from Sophia Hughes, a potter, who has sold her wares to Mrs Mills.

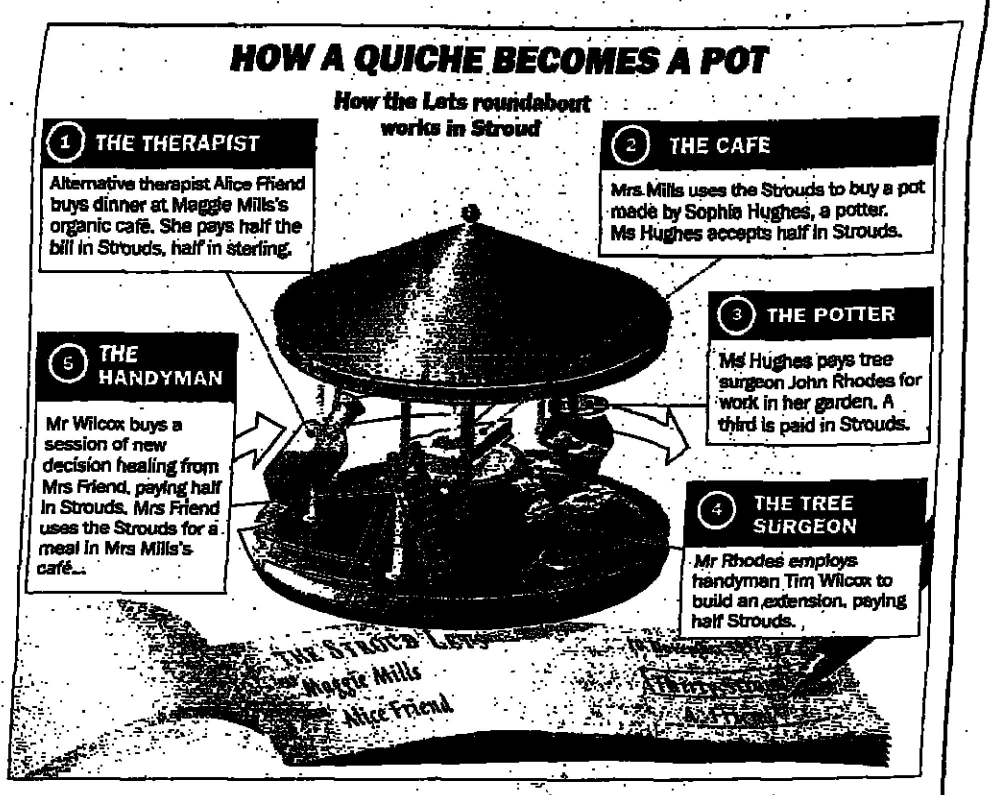
"The scheme has been a fantastic success," Ms Hughes said. "It is wonderful when you are on a low income or ill, as you can afford services you would never normally be able to pay for." Others in the scheme include architects, babysitters, gardeners and seamstresses.

Social security regulations allow people to work for local currency for up to 16 hours while claiming the jobseeker's allowance or income support but it is left to local adjudication officers to decide whether wages earned in local currency are set against income ceilings for income support. Many, such as Halesworth in Suffolk and Hull, have turned a blind eye to Lets earnings, according to Mr Croall's report. Others adhere to it rigidly, encouraging benefit cheats and deterring the long-term unemployed, who fear an end to all benefits if they get involved.

Pete Alcock, Professor of Social Policy at Sheffield Hallam University and an editor of *Benefits* magazine, said it was important that extra work did not undermine the formal labour market or the social security system. "If you have a plumber in it, that's great for the Lets but it could put the local plumber out of business," he said.

Angus Soutar, co-ordinator of the LetsGo project in Manchester, said that projects were supposed to build community spirit and to offer the disadvantaged an opportunity for self-help, not to give benefits cheats a chance to work on the sly.

The DSS said that it had no specific plans to reform Lets regulations but that its benefits review could consider improvements to the system.


HOW A QUICHE BECOMES A POT
How the Lets roundabout works in Stroud
1 THE THERAPIST
Alternative therapist Alice Friend buys dinner at Maggie Mills's organic café. She pays half the bill in Strouds, half in sterling.
2 THE CAFE
Mrs Mills uses the Strouds to buy a pot made by Sophia Hughes, a potter. Ms Hughes accepts half in Strouds.
3 THE POTTER
Ms Hughes pays tree surgeon John Rhodes for work in her garden. A third is paid in Strouds.
4 THE TREE SURGEON
Mr Rhodes employs handyman Tim Wilcox to build an extension, paying half Strouds.
5 THE HANDYMAN
Mr Wilcox buys a session of new decision healing from Mrs Friend, paying half in Strouds. Mrs Friend uses the Strouds for a meal in Mrs Mills's café...
The Stroud Lets
Maggie Mills
Alice Friend

Gene cure unblocks arteries in the leg

By Nigel Hawkes

PATIENTS with blocked arteries in their legs have been successfully treated by gene therapy, the American Heart Association was told yesterday at a meeting in Florida.

Genes injected directly into the leg stimulated the creation of new blood vessels and averted the need for amputation in seven out of nine patients, Dr Jeffery Isner, of St Elizabeth's Medical Centre, Boston, said.

The gene used normally produces the growth factor in embryos. The patients had such severely blocked arteries that no other treatment was possible. "Every therapy had been tried and failed," Dr Isner said. As blood flow fails, gangrene sets in and amputation becomes necessary.

Blocked blood vessels in the legs are a very common condition, affecting tens of thousands of people every year in Britain. Many patients also have blocked arteries in the heart or leading to the brain, which can lead to heart attacks and strokes.

Dr Isner hopes the therapy will have wider applications. "Since this gene therapy works in the leg, it should work in the heart," he said.

Delay in delivery of new tank for Army

By Michael Evans

THE Army will not receive the first of its new Challenger 2 battle tanks until the middle of next year. The delay in the £1.1 billion contract is due to technical problems with the fire control system. The tank, built by Vickers, should have been in service by now.

Two regiments, the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards and the second Royal Tank Regiment, are training for the tank but it is confined to a computer-generated simulation program.

An announcement is expected soon about the delayed deliveries. The Army has ordered 386 Challenger 2s to replace the Challenger 1s that performed creditably in the Gulf War. The Challenger 2 has a newly designed turret, fire control system and chassis.

Despite the technical problems, Vickers of Leeds yesterday announced that it had won a second export order for Challenger 2s, from Oman.

In 1993 Oman ordered about 18 Challenger 2s as well armoured repair vehicles, tank transporters and Scorpion command vehicles for £100 million. Now it has ordered a further 20 tanks, again worth about £100 million.

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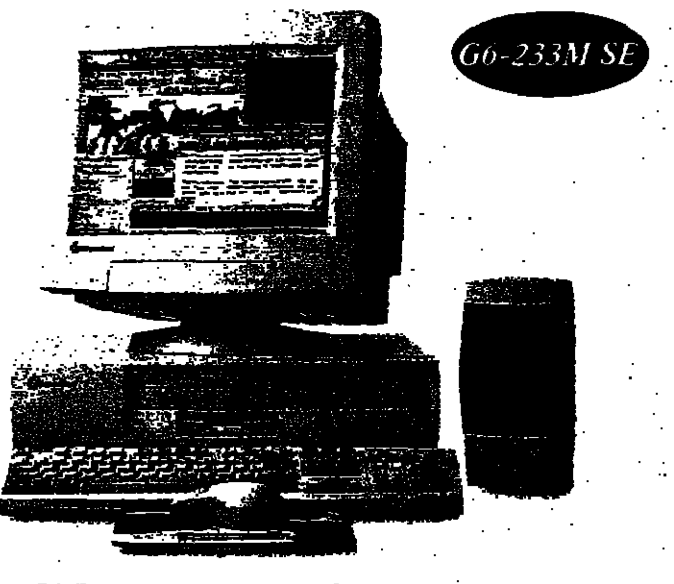

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Aziz: flew to UN yesterday

Iraq hints at deal if number of American inspectors is reduced

Despite defiant rhetoric, Baghdad is seeking to wring concessions to avert military action. The failure of a UN negotiating mission has raised the stakes, James Bone in New York writes

IRAQ'S Deputy Prime Minister *headed for the United Nations* headquarters in New York yesterday in an effort to wring concessions from the Security Council and stave off military action against his country.

Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi envoy, is to hold talks today with members of *the council as they meet to discuss* the failure of the three-man UN mission to Baghdad last week.

In a televised interview before his departure, Mr Aziz gave a warning that Baghdad would not reverse its decision to bar Americans from working as UN weapons inspectors unless concessions were made. "We are in a dark tunnel. There is no end in sight. There will be no retreat by Iraq unless changes are made," he said.

But diplomats reported that Iraqi officials had told certain Security Council members in Baghdad on Saturday that it would be "inclined to reconsider" its ban on Americans in return for a more "balanced" composition of UN weapons inspection teams. Specifically, Iraq is believed to be seeking a reduction in the number of Americans serving on UN inspection teams and the replacement of an American U2 spy plane flying surveillance missions for the UN by a non-American aircraft.

The Iraqi proposal may win some support from such friendly countries as Russia, France and China, *but will run into stiff* opposition from Britain and the United States, which will view it as another attempt to renegotiate the terms of the Gulf War ceasefire. In Washington yesterday Sandy Berger, President Clinton's National Security Adviser, said it was not for Iraq to dictate who the inspectors should be.

Although granted a diplomatic visa by the US for his trip to New York, neither Washington nor London is likely to allow Mr Aziz to dictate the make-up of UN inspection teams.

Britain and the US are prepared to seek Security Council support for a UN travel ban on senior Iraqi officials, *and may also ask for* additional sanctions on "dual-use" equipment that can have military as well as civilian applications.

Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary-General, facing criticism for disappearing to Latin America in the middle of the standoff, cut short his trip by a day yesterday to return to New York to meet the UN delegation that visited Iraq.

Jan Eliasson, one of the UN delegation, revealed during a stopover in Stockholm that the team was carrying a letter from Iraq demanding the withdrawal of all American weapons inspectors. But he said the Iraqis were willing to let the Americans stay in the *country as long as talks went on.*

Mr Eliasson defended Mr Annan's decision to send the mission, saying the UN had a duty to intervene to prevent military confrontation. He conceded the mission failed to achieve its goal.

☐ Baghdad: Iraq denied remarks by Richard Butler, the chief UN weapons inspector, that it had the ability to manufacture chemical weapons within days. The Information Ministry said: "Butler is not accurate. He knows that the [UN] Special Commission has destroyed everything directly or indirectly related to this field." *(Reuters)*

Arab radical attacks US 'terror tactics'

The Muslim world is showing few signs of backing Clinton against Iraq, Christopher Walker writes

A LEADER of Islamic Jihad, the militant Palestinian group, yesterday accused the United States of terrorising the rest of the world in its latest standoff with Iraq, and called on Arabs and Muslims to challenge *President Clinton* over the crisis.

Sheikh Nafiz Azzam's rallying cry — from the Israeli-occupied *Gaza Strip* — came amid appeals for caution from many Arab states that backed the West in the Gulf War. There was virtually no support outside Kuwait for strong US action against President Saddam Hussein.

The contrast to 1991, when Egypt and Syria led Arab military backing for the tough *stand of George Bush, then* US President, was illustrated starkly in two cartoons in prominent Arabic language newspapers published in London. The first — depicting President Clinton as a cowboy with a warplane dangling from his holster, pushing a hesitant UN soldier towards Iraq — was in *Al-Hayat*, owned by Saudi Prince Khalid bin Sultan, himself a Gulf War commander.

The other, in *Asharq al-Awsat, showed Mr Clinton* aiming a rifle at Saddam and ordinary Iraqis — the dictator alone having no target painted on *his* chest. It highlighted concerns that civilians, not the Government, would suffer in any military action.

Diplomats last night expected Sheikh Azzam's call to receive a largely sympathetic response. "It is in harmony with a lot of what we are hearing from the Arab street," one Cairo-based envoy said.

Referring to American threats over Iraq's repeated barring of US weapons inspectors, the sheikh said: "This gangsterish American act does not only aim at hurting Iraq, but at terrorising the entire world and to push everyone to give up what America and Israel want. *Arabs and Muslims* are required to stand up against American injustice and American arrogance." He accused the US of adopting a double standard, enabling Israel repeatedly to avoid respecting resolutions of the UN Security Council and the General Assembly while trying to mobilise international support for harsh action to prevent Iraq from doing so.

The sheikh urged Palestinians, led by Yassir Arafat, to halt the faltering peace negotiations with Israel, begun by the 1993 peace accord, and to boycott a US-backed Middle East and North Africa eco*nomic summit attended by* Israel, due to begin next week in the Gulf state of Qatar. A number of Arab leaders have already refused invitations.

Although some Arab commentators have blamed Iraq for provoking the latest crisis, there is scant support in the *Arab or wider Muslim world* for any tough US action because of the growing sympathy for Iraqi civilians and bitterness *over the stalled* Middle East peace process.

"Strikes on Iraq would throw the region into turmoil and would hurt the Iraqi people, who cannot be held responsible for the decisions made by their leaders," said Suleiman al-Zahrani, Professor of Political Science at King Saud Univeristy in Riyadh, the Saudi capital.

Amr Moussa, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, said that the crisis "should be dealt with *diplomatically*". *Syria made* clear it was firmly opposed to any new air strikes. "Any military action against Iraq will naturally be rejected," said Vice-President Abdul-Halim Khaddam.

UN economic sanctions imposed after the 1990 invasion of Kuwait by Baghdad's forces have devastated the Iraqi economy, causing widespread hunger.

The new Arab stance coincides with signs that President *Clinton is at last ready to take* diplomatic action to increase pressure against Israel's hardline policies on expanding *Jewish* settlements. *He* has so far refused overtures to arrange an expected summit with Binyamin Netanyahu when the Israeli leader visits America next week after a four-day trip to Britain.

Kurdish rivals clash

Ankara: Fierce fighting raged yesterday in northern Iraq for a second consecutive day amid conflicting reports of territorial gains by a *Kurdish militia and its Turkish-backed rival.*

"This morning at about four o'clock they launched two new offensives in *Degala* and were repulsed," a spokesman for the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan said in Ankara.

But the rival Kurdistan Democratic Party said its forces had advanced on all fronts and captured a strategic mountain range. "Since yesterday our forces have advanced between nine and twelve miles on all fronts," *the group's spokesman,* Dilshad Miran, said.

Northern Iraq, which has been outside Baghdad's control since the Gulf War, is patrolled by Western jets from Turkey but they have failed to halt clashes between the Kurds, most of whom are opposed to President Saddam Hussein. *(Reuters)*

FALEH KHEIBER / REUTERS

An Iraqi in Baghdad yesterday shouts anti-American slogans and urges the world to stop the United States threatening his country. His children are displaying portraits of their mother and sister, both killed in the Gulf War

Canadian dilemma over huge contract

From Richard Cleroux
in Ottawa

A GROUP of 22 Canadian *businessmen* has *signed* a $Can1 billion (£416 million) trade deal with Iraq, throwing the country's foreign policy into turmoil.

The contract negotiated in Baghdad after a week of bargaining with five separate Iraqi government ministries must be approved by the United Nations Security Council under a special resolution that allows exports to Iraq "strictly for medical purposes and humanitarian circumstances".

The Canadian Government was caught by surprise over the weekend and has not *indicated whether it will take* up the case before the UN on behalf of the businessmen. The deal would include a thousand prefabricated homes, medical supplies including 200 ambulances, 50 hospital lifts and 30,000 light bulbs, as well as surgical supplies and pharmaceuticals. Another Canadian firm clinched a deal for 100,000 tonnes of rice, 300,000 tonnes of potatoes and 6,000 Holstein dairy cattle.

The *trade mission,* which was not approved by the Government, also invited President Saddam's right-*hand man, Tariq Aziz,* to visit New Brunswick, the Canadian province expected to benefit from the deal. The Cabinet is expected to meet today or tomorrow to decide whether to rescind the invitation.

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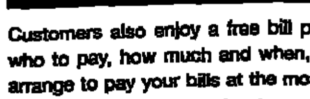

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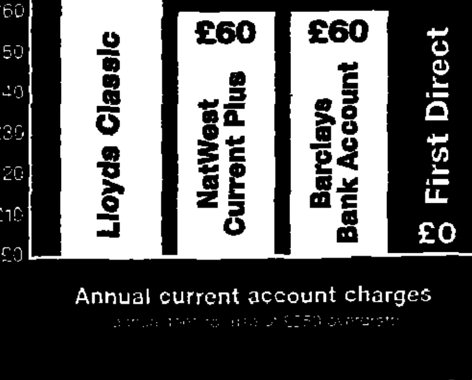

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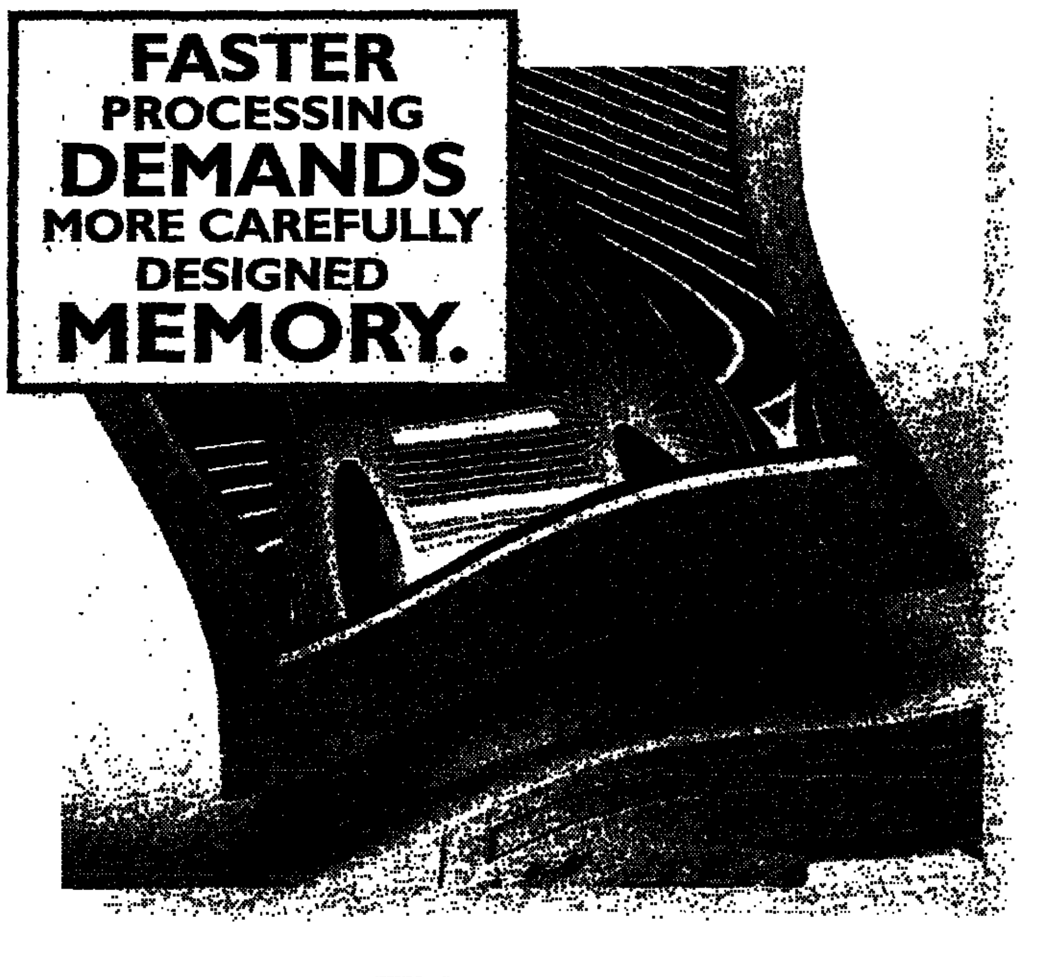

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Internet casinos cash in beyond the law

From David Adams in Miami

AMERICAN punters are surfing the Caribbean in the latest high-tech effort to dodge strict prohibition in most US states on sports betting and casino gambling.

Some islands, such as Antigua, are offering gambling opportunities on the Internet. But United States fraud investigators are concerned that the "virtual casinos" are being used to launder money and evade tax.

Gamblers can log on to any one of about 30 online betting sites with names such as Sands of the Caribbean, Inter Casino or Casino of the Americas. Players establish accounts with money transfers or credit cards.

The "virtual casinos" have mushroomed into a multi-million-dollar business. Analysts estimate that the industry already accounts for $200 million (£118 million) in revenues annually.

Albert Angel, vice-chairman of the Interactive Gaming Council, seeking to develop ground rules for online gambling, said: "The genie is out of the bottle."

A Bill was introduced this year in Congress. The Internet Gambling Prohibition Act would punish companies that offer online gambling as well as penalise those who bet from home.

However, most companies have moved outside US jurisdiction. Moreover, bets with "virtual casinos" are almost impossible to detect.

President declares Taiwan 'free of Beijing'

President Lee, boosted by pledges of US support, says change in the "other China" is the only possible path to reunification, **Jonathan Mirsky** reports from Taipei

PRESIDENT Lee Teng-hui of Taiwan has raised the stakes dramatically in his diplomatic poker game with China by declaring his island "an independent country, just like Britain or France".

His move, in an interview with *The Times*, is a challenge to Beijing's leaders, who have always suspected he intends to foil their plans to recover the island. Chinese leaders have long given warnings that independence would bring an invasion. However, President Lee doubted the Chinese would repeat shows of force such as that in March 1996 when missiles were fired to land near Taiwan during military exercises, adding that if there were a real threat, he would expect America to help to defend Taiwan.

The democratically elected Mr Lee, 75, is the first Taiwanese President born on the island. He spoke with confidence during a *tour d'horizon* in which nearly every statement will irritate the mainland. He called China essentially "a culture", not necessarily a country, and noted there had been long periods of disunity in Chinese history. Now there were two governments — the "Republic of China on Taiwan" and "the People's Republic of China". He rejected Beijing's description of Taiwan as "a renegade province".

President Jiang Zemin of China has invited Mr Lee to Beijing several times on condition that he travel as "Chairman of the Nationalist Party", the Kuomintang. Mr Lee has dismissed the idea, saying: "I would go only on condition of complete equality ... he would have to recognise us as an independent sovereign country."

He was careful to say that he would never proclaim "an independent Republic of Taiwan", as if that name could trigger a violent reaction. "But I don't think there will be any more war games like the ones from July 1995 to March 1996. They failed; they had a negative effect. They won't dare again. I don't know why they did that."

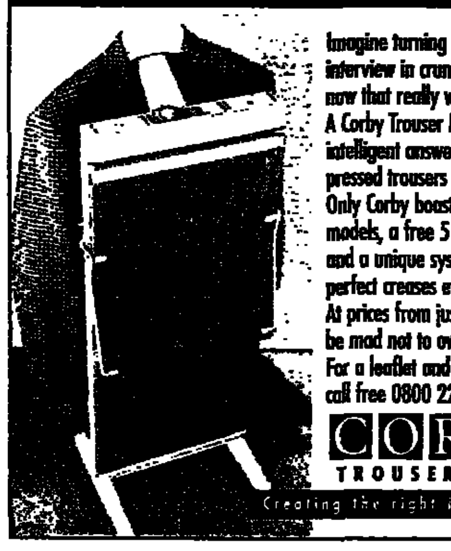
Should Beijing's forces invade, Mr Lee said, Washington was bound to provide weapons under the US-Taiwan Relations Act, although "supplying troops would ... be a decision for the United States".

Members of the President's staff pointed out that, as with the two Germanys and the two Koreas, there was an ideal of unification. Mr Lee was cautious: "For that to happen, first China would have to become a free, democratic, socially just country. Dialogue between the two countries would be very important. But how should the reunification take shape? A commonwealth? A federation? There could even be two capitals. No one can predict this now."

President Lee, who also refered to China's military presence in Tibet as an occupation, said he had been assured by Washington that the recent US-China summit meant no lessening of support for Taiwan.

SIMON KWONG / REUTERS

Lee Teng-hui: in a Chinese attack, he would expect America to defend Taiwan



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Tutsis tell of Rwanda rapists

Women risk their lives to tell UN tribunal of atrocities committed by Hutu mayor, **David Orr** writes

HUNDREDS of miles and 3½ years separate Rwanda's genocide from the events being described in a court in the northern Tanzanian town of Arusha. As the evidence unfolds we are transported in time to a district in central Rwanda called Taba where, during a fateful period in 1994, at least 2,000 minority Tutsis were brutally murdered.

The man in the dock is Jean-Paul Akayesu, the 44-year-old former Mayor of Taba. His trial, the first under the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, is one of three being heard. He stands accused of genocide and an array of crimes against humanity, including rape.

Last to give evidence against him was a woman identified simply as "PP". She is 38 years old, a Tutsi and lived in Taba. Hidden from view and speaking in a faltering voice, she said Mr Akayesu was behind many, if not most, of the atrocities in the district.

"I saw three women being driven to his office. In the car there were also several *Interahamwe* [Hutu extremists]. The driver called for Mr Akayesu, who came out [and] gave orders for them to be taken away, saying: 'Don't you know where the killings take place?' " She testified that she saw the three women being raped. Then, all three were killed and thrown into a ditch.

She added: "Later, a meeting was held at which Akayesu said: 'Whoever is hiding Tutsis must bring them out today. Even a woman who is married to a Tutsi and is pregnant must be found and her pregnancy ended'. He quoted a Rwandan proverb: 'If a snake is coiled around a gourd, then you have to break the gourd to kill the snake'."

"PP" said she was able to observe events unmolested because she was married to a Hutu and had been able to convince the local authorities that she, too, was a Hutu.

Mr Akayesu, who has pleaded not guilty to all the charges against him, sat impassively before the three presiding judges.

Earlier in the trial, a woman called "JJ" testified that she had suffered multiple rapes at the hands of Hutu militants led by Mr Akayesu.

Judge Navanethem Pillay, of South Africa, said after the trial was adjourned: "Nothing has prepared me for the evidence I am hearing. Never before in history has such evidence emerged of sexual violence being used as a military strategy on such a scale as in Rwanda."

Witnesses such as "PP" and "JJ" are testifying in the knowledge that they are risking their lives. After giving evidence they must return to Rwanda, where people are being murdered daily because of their ethnicity.

Mr Akayesu's trial resumes later this month.

WORLD IN BRIEF

Sharansky jeered at Rabin rally

Jerusalem: More than 150,000 people, one of the largest gatherings in the history of the Jewish state, massed in Tel Aviv at the weekend to commemorate the second anniversary of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, the Labour Prime Minister (Christopher Walker writes). The rally, in the square where Mr Rabin was shot by an extreme right-wing Jew, took on a political tone when the crowd jeered and booed Natan Sharansky, the Trade and Industry Minister and the only member of the right-wing Government to attend.

Among the thousands of posters were some accusing Binyamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, of inciting the murder on the night of November 4, 1995.

French lift last barricade

Paris: French lorry drivers reluctantly dismantled their last barricade at the weekend, ending their five-day strike. Earlier fears that the dispute might continue after the smaller drivers' unions rejected Friday's pay deal, struck with employers by the largest CFDT union, proved unfounded as more than 320,000 truck drivers returned to work (Susan Bell writes). The strike is estimated to have cost British businesses more than £5 million, and hauliers are already initiating compensation claims.

Algerian gunmen kill 22

Paris: Gunmen thought to be Muslim rebels killed 22 people in western Algeria, cutting their throats or decapitating them with axes, newspapers reported. Twenty gunmen in Tlemcen province stopped the civilians, including six women, heading for mass prayers in a mosque on Friday, bound them hand and foot with wires and took them to wasteground and killed them. More than 65,000 people have died in Algeria's political violence since 1992. *(Reuter)*

Parents hang themselves

Macau: The parents of two children who died in a fire when left alone in their apartment hanged themselves at a building site in this Portuguese enclave, police reported. They said the two apparently acted out of grief over the loss of their children, a five-year-old boy and a girl aged seven, who died on Saturday when fire broke out in the family's nineteenth-storey apartment. *(AP)*

Priest expelled from Sicily

Palermo: Father Mario Frittitta, 59, a Roman Catholic priest arrested on charges of aiding and abetting the Mafia, was released and ordered to leave Sicily (Francesco Bongarra writes). Judge Alfredo Montalto said: "The teaching of Christ is incompatible with the activities of the Mafia." Police told the judge that they feared the priest, who belongs to the Carmelite order, might interfere with the evidence.

Bride 'picked' for Prince

Madrid: King Juan Carlos of Spain's son and heir, Crown Prince Felipe, 29, left, faces growing popular pressure to marry since the wedding last month of his sister, Princess Cristina. The magazine *Epoca* said a Catholic German aristocrat, Caroline of Waldburg, 26, had topped a poll to choose a bride. The family of her father, Count Gebhardt of Waldburg-Walfegg und Waldsee, owns three castles in and around Bad Waldsee.

Summit heads quit early

Miami: The seventh Ibero-American summit ended yesterday in Venezuela with attacks on Cuba's lack of democracy, an agreement on corruption and a call for help clearing landmines (David Adams writes). At least four of the 23 leaders present slipped away a day early, amid criticism that the meetings are fast losing credibility.

800,000 Somalis homeless

Nairobi: Floods have made up to 800,000 homeless in southern Somalia, the United Nations Children's Fund said. "Unless we get helicopters and boats immediately, instead of saving lives we will be helping to bury the dead," a Unicef aid co-ordinator said here. *(Reuters)*

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WORLD IN BRIEF

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Euro gets a rough ride as Paris and Bonn bumper cars collide

INSIDE GERMANY

BY ROGER BOYES

Guest of honour at this year's Frankfurt Bankers and Brokers Ball was *Wim Duisenberg*. Gretta, his formidably tall wife, seemed briefly unhappy about the shortage of dancing space, but the Dutch couple had a good time.

The future head of the European Central Bank was treated with the respect shown to a tribal chieftain. Hans Tietmeyer, the Bundesbank *president and* ball patron, won tickets to the English Theatre in the raffle and promptly handed them over to the Duisenbergs, who would, it was presumed, soon have plenty of time to kill in Frankfurt. A few days later, this cosy vignette of power — Herr Tietmeyer passing the baton on to his trusted friend, the hard mark generously *giving way to the hard euro* — was upset by the special variant of chaos theory that characterises the current Franco-German relationship.

There is, in fact, no relationship worth the name. Trust between the two ruling classes has withered, communication between leaders confuses rather than clarifies. *For 50 years, the two neighbours* sought an artificial intimacy; now almost everything about it irritates.

The problem, it must be said, has been partly self-induced. German diplomacy has slipped pretty badly on the matter of the European Central Bank. The Germans assumed *that* an agreement, reached by central bank governors in Dublin in December, to confirm Mr Duisenberg's candidature amounted to a definitive green light. Neither the French nor the Italians seem to have read *that meeting in the same* way.

Bonn has had many *months* to tackle Paris, but has drifted along as if the road to the euro were a robotic progression, and all the principal decisions had been clinched.

France publicly launched Jean-Claude Trichet as its candidate for the head of the Euro bank. The Germans were not so much angry as bewildered. What is the point of six-weekly summits if the French continue to spring surprises? But the French reply: "What surprise? Listen more carefully."

Bonn's understanding is *that Paris does not seriously* think M Trichet will get the Frankfurt job. But it is cer*tainly intent on* ditching Mr Duisenberg — not only because the Dutchman is viewed as a Tietmeyer accomplice. There is a French suspicion about how much euro planning has been going on between Bonn, Frankfurt and Amsterdam; the German-Dutch axis, it seems, is *becoming the hard core of the* euro.

Apart from knocking out Mr Duisenberg, France's game plan is construed as follows: M Trichet becomes deputy governor of the central bank while another *Frenchman (a consolation for* this disappointment) takes over the European Bank for *Reconstruction and Develop*ment. And the top Euro job goes, if France's plan works, to a Club Med candidate, the favourite being the Spaniard, Luis Angel Rojo.

Since the German public may not buy a Mediterranean candidate (despite Dr Rojo's strong anti-inflation *credentials), Helmut Kohl* may try to persuade Jean-Claude Juncker, the talented Luxembourg Prime Minister, to come to Frankfurt.

The row recalls the feuding over the succession *to Jacques Delors as* President of the European Commission. On that occa*sion, the Chancellor blocked* a Dutchman, John Major blocked a Belgian, and Europe ended up with Jacques Santer of Luxembourg. Perhaps that is how European politics now has to be managed: like an internal contest by fairground bumper cars. But the euro is *supposed to be a currency* and cannot stand much of this kind of political buffeting.

Plainly, if the Franco-German relationship cannot work, then neither can the euro. It is no longer good *enough to dismiss such rows* as a simple hiccup in the lively conversation between two good neighbours. It is, in fact, dangerous to trivialise such frictions. Differences on unemployment, economic management and the balance on the South and the East are fundamental and not being addressed.

Leading article, page 23

Yeltsin to clinch deal with China on land border

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT YELTSIN flew into Beijing last night at the *start of a three-day trip, aimed* at settling for the first time in history the vast disputed land frontier between the two nations.

Arriving for his third visit to the Chinese capital, the Russian leader said that he expect*ed to go straight into* substantive talks with President Jiang Zemin, likely to be dominated by the need to boost trade ties.

However, the high point of the trip will be the signing today of a declaration on the *final demarcation of the joint* 2,800-mile border. The frontier, fought over for centuries, plunged the two nations into a brief but bloody conflict in the 1960s, when their Communist alliance finally fell apart. Despite objections from Russian *nationalists in the Far East, all* but a couple of tiny disputed areas have been settled by a joint border commission. "This is a big success," Mr *Yeltsin said. "The border de*marcation alone made it worth coming here."

In the short term, at least, the two countries have much to gain by boosting ties. China provides a source of inexpensive consumer goods for the *hungry Russian market*. In turn, Moscow can furnish the Chinese with energy needs and sophisticated weapons. In particular, Beijing has purchased dozens of the acclaimed Su27 fighter aircraft. Moscow and Beijing are also *of one mind in the political* arena. Both resist America's dominance in global affairs, and unlike President Clinton, Mr Yeltsin will make no mention of human rights concerns during talks with Chinese leaders.

*In Russia, there is undis*guised respect for China's reform process, where the Communist Party has maintained authority while allowing the economy to liberalise and become one of the world's most vibrant. By contrast, *Russia's political reforms and* its chaotic transition to a market economy have led to elections and freedom but also enormous social problems and hardship for millions.

For Russia, the visit by Mr Yeltsin signals a determined *effort by the Kremlin to lift its* profile in the Far East, a region it has long neglected in favour of boosting ties with the West. Last week, Mr Yeltsin met Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Japanese Prime Minister, in the Siberian city of Krasno*yarsk, which ended with the* two nations vowing to resolve, within two years, a territorial dispute that has prevented the formal ending of hostilities after the Second World War.

Boris Nemtsov, the Russian Deputy Prime Minister, who *arrived with an advance party* in Beijing, said he hoped to energise Sino-Russian commercial activity by promoting a project for a huge gas pipeline that would stretch from Russia to China and South Korea.

"*So far we do not have* a big enough project to become a kickstarter of practical co-operation," he said. "The $12 billion [£7 billion] pipeline project may certainly become one." His presence in Beijing provided fresh evidence to *Kremlin-watchers* that he is being groomed as the designated successor to Mr Yeltsin.

ALEKSI DITYAKIN / REUTERS

President Yeltsin attends to a welcoming committee on arrival in Beijing for talks with President Jiang

Concern grows for ailing Havel

BY ROGER BOYES

FEARS are increasing for the health of President Havel of the Czech Republic, and it is doubtful whether he will stand for re-election in January.

Mr Havel, 61, breathing with difficulty, left his sickbed *on Saturday to swear in three* Cabinet ministers, then returned to hospital for further treatment for pneumonia. Last year, a cancerous tumour and a large part of his right lung were removed.

The opposition Social Democrats said at the weekend that they intended to topple the liberal-conservative coalition of Vaclav Klaus, the Prime Minister — racked by power struggles — in a no-confidence vote in February. The timing of the vote is to *ensure that there would be a* new head of state in place to keep the country stable. The presidential elections are due on January 20.

But the only candidate for the presidency is Mr Havel. Doctors are urging him to give *up his attempt to be re-elected*, as is his wife, Dagmar, whom he married in January.

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French writers row over 'communism killed 100m' claim

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

A BOOK by a team of French historians, described as the first global accounting of the victims of communism, has estimated that in this century Communist dictators, regimes and movements have been responsible for the deaths of up to 100 million people.

The 850-page *Black Book of Communism — Crimes, Terror and Repression*, by 11 senior French researchers and published to coincide with yesterday's 80th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution, has triggered a fresh ideological battle.

The writers have come up with a final esimate that communism claimed about 65 million lives in China, 20 million in the Soviet Union, two million in Cambodia, two million in North Korea, 1.7 million in Africa, one million in Vietnam, one million in Eastern Europe and 150,000 in South America.

In a polemical introduction, Stéphane Courtois, the chief editor and co-ordinator of the project, argued that mass murder and terror have been central characteristics of communism. "The facts are stubborn," he writes. "They show that that the Communist regimes committed crimes against about 100 million people, compared to about 25 million for the Nazis."

Some of M Courtois's fellow authors, however, have taken issue both with his highly charged conclusions and with *his figures. Jean-Louis Mar*golin and Nicolas Werth, both historians, accused him of being determined to reach the symbolic figure of 100 million, and sharply disagreed with his contention that class-based purges under communism *can be equated with racially* motivated genocide on the Nazi model. They claimed that M Courtois deliberately misused their research to bolster his thesis.

The debate has more than purely academic significance in France, where Communist Party politicians were admitted to the Cabinet this year for *the first time since 1981*.

L'Humanité, the Communist newspaper, said: "This is not a history of communism, but a perspective on the crimes and forms of repression committed in its name."

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Alabama pupils defy judge's ban on prayers

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

A POWERFUL movement of "godly disobedience" is sweeping through schools across the state of Alabama after a federal judge struck out a state law allowing prayer in public schools.

Students, teachers and parents, united in their opposition to the ruling, are staging "pray-ins" in defiance of Judge Ira DeMent of the Federal District Court in Montgomery. The protesters have the full support of Forrest "Fob" James, the state's Republican Governor, and that of Bill Pryor, its Attorney-General, who have lambasted Judge DeMent's decision as "an unconstitutional abuse of power".

Mr James, vowing to appeal against the decision, has said that he will resist the prayer ban "by every legal and political means, with every ounce of strength I possess", and that he will turn the issue into a test case on the apparent conflict between the rights of states and federal powers.

Not since the "monkey trial" of 1925, when a teacher in Tennessee, John Thomas Scopes, was prosecuted for violating the state's ban on the teaching of evolution in the classroom, has the issue of religion in schools so inflamed passions and public opinion.

The latest case began last year when Michael Chandler, the assistant principal of Valley Head School in DeKalb County, filed a lawsuit against the state of Alabama, asking Judge DeMent to strike out a 1993 statute permitting "non-proselytising, voluntary prayer" in schools.

Mr Chandler, backed by the American Civil Liberties Union and a group called Americans United for the Separation of Church and State, argued that the state law violated not just a panoply of Supreme Court rulings outlawing school prayer, but also the First Amendment.

Last week Judge DeMent agreed. The 1993 Alabama law violated the First Amendment — which guarantees free speech — because it "favours religion over non-religion". He ruled also that the law fell foul of the essence of so-called "Establishment Clause" of the US Constitution, which states: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion."

This prompted an audacious response from the state Governor. Mr James has written a 34-page letter to the judge arguing that the First Amendment does not apply to the states.

He contends that the Bill of Rights was enacted to limit the power of federal government, not that of states. Therefore, he continues, the Supreme Court or any other federal tribunal has no jurisdiction to bar Alabama students from voluntarily praying in school.

The Governor has received unstinting support from one of the state's judges, Roy Moore, of the Etowah County Circuit Court in Gadsden. Judge Moore, not one to hide his religious convictions under a bushel, is the subject of another lawsuit by a "secular crusader" seeking to force him to remove a tablet of the Ten Commandments from a wall in his courtroom.

Judge Moore issued an order from his court last week defying Judge DeMent's ruling, describing it as "one of the worst cases of judicial usurpation of people's rights I have ever seen". He has declared that the ruling banning prayer in schools was "not the law in Etowah County".

As prayer meetings were held in schools in defiance of the ban, and as Judge DeMent announced that all those so assembling would be liable for prosecution, the Governor gave a warning that he would call out the National Guard to protect those who "answer the call to prayer".

DAVID SILVERMAN / REUTERS

Patriarch Diodorus and Amir Drori, head of the Israeli Antiquities Authority, seated above the stone believed to be where Mary sat

Archaeologists uncover 'rock where Mary rested'

FROM ROSS DUNN
IN JERUSALEM

ARCHAEOLOGISTS in Israel have uncovered the site where, according to Christian tradition, Mary stopped to rest on her way from Jerusalem to Bethlehem to give birth to Jesus.

Digging at the Jerusalem site began in 1992, but only resumed in earnest in the past month when extra funds became available. The recent excavations fully exposed the ruins of a large Byzantine church with rich mosaic floors, built round a rock known as the *Kathisma*, Greek for "the seat", the place where Mary is supposed to have rested.

"During the last week we succeeded in exposing a major part of the church, including the 'holy rock' in the centre of it," said Gideon Avni, chief archaeologist for the Jerusalem region. "This site was developed as a religious site, as a focus of pilgrimage starting from the fourth century."

While part of the rock was exposed during the original excavations, Mr Avni said it was only through the recent work that archaeologists had been able to confirm that it was the site of Mary's resting place, according to early Christian traditions.

Those traditions date from before the construction of the church in the 5th century and were maintained to the present by Christian pilgrims, who stopped to worship there on their way to Bethlehem from Jerusalem.

The church is the largest of its type to be discovered in Israel, but the mosaic floors that have been uncovered date from the 17th century.

Leaders of the Greek Orthodox Church, which owns the land, attended a news conference at the site yesterday, applauding the Israeli archaeologists and singing a hymn.

Hope springs for no-car national park

FROM GILES WHITTELL
IN LOS ANGELES

ONE of nature's great cathedrals may no longer be choked throughout the summer by car fumes, thanks to a $270 million ($161 million) plan in the wake of disastrous floods last winter.

Yosemite National Park, whose towering granite cliffs draw more visitors each year than Yellowstone, is considering banning car-bound day-trippers from the valley where John Muir once urged Theodore Roosevelt to preserve the American West. Visitors would have to walk, ride bicycles or use shuttle buses instead.

In the summer, 7,000 cars a day grind round the loop road that provides views of spectacular waterfalls and of astounding rock citadels, turning the valley floor into a slow-moving car park.

In January, heavy rains and an early thaw combined to burst the banks of the park's main river, the Merced, sweeping away roads and bridges in the worst flooding in the park's history. Yosemite became eligible for $190 million in federal relief funds, which conservationists say is a priceless opportunity to reorganise the park for future generations.

If the National Park Service's plan is approved, after public meetings throughout California, the money will be used to remove motel rooms, campsites and roads from the valley floor. More funds are being sought to build a 1,800-space car park at the entrance to Yosemite.

Leading article, page 23

Clinton woos gay activists

Washington: President Clinton attempted yesterday to embrace America's gay community, at a dinner hosted, among others, by Ellen DeGeneres, the lesbian television personality. He promised workplace equality, but protests outside highlighted his failure over full military integration and single-sex marriages.

Bomb suspect faces death penalty

BY GILES WHITTELL

THE man arrested last year as the suspected anti-technology terrorist known as the Unabomber could face the death penalty if convicted.

Judge Garland Burrell ruled that jurors in the trial of Theodore Kaczynski, suspected of 16 bombings over 18 years, can recommend a death sentence if they convict him of a single fatal attack. He is charged with causing two deaths and injuring two other people in letter-bomb explosions in the Californian state capital of Sacramento; he has pleaded not guilty on all counts. Jury selection begins on Wednesday. His lawyers made a final effort on Friday to have death ruled out as a possible sentence.

Mr Kaczynski, a former Berkeley mathematics professor, was traced to a cabin in the Montana mountains last year. His brother, David, had tipped off the FBI in the hope that his help would encourage the prosecution not to seek the death penalty. It was "necessary to turn my brother in to the authorities", he says in a forthcoming interview, adding that the bombing campaign was a symptom of "illness rather than evil and not something that I could control or he could control".

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Stubborn winter killer

Scientists are still battling to develop a vaccine to combat the deadly effects of RSV virus, reports **Anjana Ahuja**

BUBBLES

Initial symptoms of RSV are no worse than a cold, but the virus puts hundreds of infants into intensive care every year

There is a virus that surfaces, regular as clockwork, every November and lingers throughout winter until about March. During its annual visit, it preys on the very vulnerable — the young and the old. The disease puts *hundreds of infants* into intensive care every year, although mortalities are rare. The elderly are not so lucky — some experts consider the virus to be a bigger killer than influenza.

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) was identified in the early 1960s. First symptoms include a chesty cold; it doesn't get much worse for a healthy child. But the virus can have a devastating effect on premature infants, or children with underlying chest disorders, congenital heart disease or immune system deficiencies.

'Unlike flu, there is no vaccine, and biologists in Britain and America are desperately trying to manufacture one. Dr Patricia Cane, of Birmingham University, says: "From now until after Christmas baby wards in hospitals up and *down the country will* be clogged with children suffering *from RSV. The disease has* a huge social and economic *impact, but it is rather* neglected."

Dr Cane, *formerly at* Warwick University, is being funded by the Wellcome Trust to investigate the chameleon-like nature of RSV. Often mistaken for flu, the virus undergoes genetic drift from one epidemic to the next. In any given year, up to six variations can be pinpointed.

Most of the variation seems to centre on a substance called the G-protein, which forms part of the virus coating. Amino acids, which form the building blocks of proteins, are constantly rearranging themselves.

"This causes the coating to change subtly so the immune response changes too," says Dr Cane. "It makes the virus a moving target."

So unlike the related measles virus, which can be targeted *with just one vaccine*, any RSV vaccine would have to be *tuned to the particular strain* in circulation. But each epi*demic seems to be made* up of multiple lineages, so any successful vaccine would likely be a "cocktail."

Testing vaccines on infants remains a major drawback. One test carried out in Washington in the 1960s involved a deactivated virus — the virus was, in effect, killed off. But the vaccine, according to Dr Cane, sent immune systems into overdrive and was "a disaster". A few children subsequently died.

Dr Cane says: "The vaccination itself was fine, but it induced an immune response that was not protective. More childen ended up in hospital because of their response to the natural *infection* after vaccination than would have done as a result of the effects of the virus alone." This overproduction of useless, and even harmful, antibodies is known as an unbalanced immune response. The vaccine in question also had to be injected — not an ideal option for infants. It is now thought that deactivating the virus may have led to the catastrophic immune *response in some cases.*

Vaccinating people who could pass on the virus, rather than the babies themselves, is an option that is being considered. "It might be better to vaccinate would-be mothers, so the immunity is passed on to the baby," says Dr Cane. "We are exploring the possibility of vaccinating older schoolchildren so they don't go home and pass the virus on to their siblings."

But whither the vaccine? There is one promising prospect on the horizon. Discussions are under way to revive a vaccine developed a decade ago by Professor Craig Pringle at Warwick University, and *the Medical Research Council* Virology Unit in Glasgow. The *live vaccine was administered* in adult volunteers at the end of the 1980s, but further investigation, including whether it could actually protect against RSV, was abandoned.

Dr Andrew Easton, a biologist at Warwick University, would like to see the vaccine trials renewed. A similar effort is under way in America at the *National Institutes of Health* near Washington.

Both trials would involve a live, attenuated virus. Dr Eas*ton says: "The point of such* a vaccine is to make sure the virus replicates enough to elicit an immune response, but not enough to cause disease. Such a vaccine can be made by putting the virus in an artificial host, to which it adapts. When this virus moves to a human host, the difference in environment means it replicates poorly."

Live, attenuated virus vaccines produce a balanced immune response — they trigger only the production of relevant antibodies. Animal tests have been promising and the vaccine can be administered using nasal drops. Dr Easton thinks this is the way to go: "We *desperately need a vaccine*, and there aren't any *other real alternatives.* It's a long haul, but I'm optimistic."

Into space with a laser lift-off

SCIENTISTS are this month *preparing to test an unusual* way of propelling objects into *space. The concept involves* using a laser to heat air *beneath a capsule — the air* then expands rapidly, launching the capsule. It is hoped the technique could provide an alternative means of sending satellites into space.

The principle of the Lightcraft experiment has already been demonstrated in the laboratory. Now there are plans to fire a capsule outside. "When we tried it in the laboratory the capsule was bouncing off the ceiling," says Dr Jonathan Campbell, project manager for beamed energy propulsion research at *Nasa's Marshall Space Flight* Centre in Huntsville, Alabama. "Until we get out*side*, we won't know what altitude we can reach. We plan to do that any day now."

The joint experiment is being run by Professor Leik Myrabo at the Philips Laboratory, Kirkland Air Force Base in New Mexico, and Mar*shall, and the test will take* place at the White Sands *Missile Range, also in New* Mexico.

The force of the lift-off is determined by the power of the laser and the nature of the capsule's underside. Dr Campbell describes it as a "marriage between optics and propulsion". The laser presently in use is only 10 kilowatts, but the one to be used at White Sands will be 15 times more powerful.

The underside is mirrored and contoured to allow the laser energy to focus on a small volume of air, and it takes just a few milliseconds to get the capsule airborne.

In a demonstration last month, the 14ft ascent looked less than elegant. But as the polished aluminium capsule took flight a little awkwardly, onlookers were already celebrating.

"People may not realise it, but it was an extremely significant moment when we showed that the principle *could work in practice*," says Dr Campbell. "We were *delighted we could prove* anything at all."

The unusual propulsion method could pave the way for cheap access to space, according to Dr Campbell.

"The great thing about laser propulsion is the fact that the system is on the ground," he says. "A lot of the weight and volume on rockets is dedicated to propulsion. If we can leave that on the ground, we only need to lift the payload. A great deal of our work at Marshall is devoted to pushing down the costs of getting *into space."* Provided powerful enough lasers *become available*, the only propul*sion costs involved* would be the electricity bill for powering them.

'This may pave the way for cheap space travel'

There is an additional possible use for laser propulsion — it can be employed to shift payloads around in space. That scenario can be simulated by propelling *capsules horizontally. It is* possible that Nasa will even*tually use lasers to boost* vehicles or satellites to 40,000ft at Mach 6 (six times the speed of sound). Then the laser could be focused on a pocket of fuel, creating additional thrust, though that is at least a decade away.

PRESENT aims are a little more modest, partly due to the inevitable funding problems (the project has cost about £625,000 so far). However, experiments will continue on propelling small objects to ever-higher altitudes.

The team hopes to fire a small capsule to an altitude of at least half a kilometre within 18 months. After that, effort will focus on getting a picosatellite, weighing less that one kilogram, to sub-orbital altitudes.

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Nigel Hawkes

LIFE evolved through billions of happy accidents, creating *organisms that happen to flourish* in the particular environ*ment they occupy.*

Now a similar approach to drug design has scored a first success, showing that evolution, the blind watchmaker, can also be a blind drugmaker. An American team at NeXstar, a biotechnology company in Boulder, Colorado, has used an evolutionary technique to produce a material that can inhibit *the action of elastase, an enzyme* active in the lung. The ultimate *aim is to prevent heart failure* caused by respiratory distress syndrome, which is estimated to kill 75,000 people a year in the United States alone.

The method the team used has been described by Dr Sydney Brenner, one of the grandfathers of molecular biology, as "irrational drug design". The tag is a joke, since the chemists who make drugs today like to believe that they have escaped from trial-and-error and started to design drugs on a rational basis, from an understanding of the underlying molecular biology.

The NeXstar team approached the problem from a different direction. Rather than studying the biology of respiratory distress in detail to design a drug from first principles, they created a million million different drugs and then selected from the mixture the one that worked best. They allowed the biological system itself to make the choice, just as the environment selects which organisms survive during the process of evolution.

The key to the process is the ability, using automated synthesis, to make billions of copies of short lengths of the genetic material DNA, called aptamers, each slightly different. Within this genetic zoo there is likely to be at least one aptamer that will bind to any given target molecule.

So all that is necessary is to screen the mixture in some way to select the particular aptamer that works best, then add an active ingredient so that it can be used as a drug.

Earlier this year, Dr Drew Smith of NeXstar and colleagues reported that they had made aptamers that incorporated a *known inhibitor of elastase.*

They put *this small molecule* (a valyl diphenylester phosphonate) into a "library" of a million million different DNA *sequences. They then checked in* a test tube how well each of the variants promoted the reaction between the inhibitor and elastase, and found one that was 10,000 times more effective than the inhibitor alone. The increase comes about because of the ability of the DNA to fold into stable shapes that bind firmly to the enzyme, enhancing the ability of the inhibitor to operate.

The result could be of medical *value because it is known that* with inflammatory diseases of the lung, elastase does the damage. White blood cells attracted to the site of inflammation produce the elastase, which is normally under the control of inhibitors produced by the body. If this control process breaks down, inflammation of the lung caused by infection can be followed by serious and permanent lung damage, which in turn can lead to heart failure.

In the latest issue of Current Biology, Dr Smith and colleagues from the University of *Zurich and the University of Michigan* Medical School report on tests of their *aptamer in rats. They provoked inflammation* in the rats' lungs by injecting cow protein and antibodies, which provoked swelling and tissue damage. Nine rats were left untreated, while a further 22 were given different doses of the aptamer. The higher the dose, they report, the less the lung damage. This is the the first time any aptamer has been shown to work in an animal model of a disease. And in a separate paper in *Chemistry and Biology*, Dr Smith and two colleagues show that the aptamer can also be used as a diagnostic tool. Linked to a fluorescent dye, it sticks to areas of inflammation and glows.

Dr Smith believes that because aptamers are easily made by machine, drugs based on them may be cheaper than those produced conventionally. Treating a human disease *with aptamers "is still a leap, but in principle* we can do this", he says. NeXstar is not alone *in believing aptamers may have a big future;* several other biotechnology companies are *active in the field.*

Bats off to a life of luxury

BAT-LOVERS may soon be winging it to Johnson City, Texas, where the world's largest artificial bat cave has been built in a ranch belonging to J. David Bamberger, the former boss of a fried chicken chain. Mr Bamberger, an unashamed bat enthusiast, told *The New York Times*: "Bats are going to overtake dinosaurs in popularity."

The cave consists of a series of linked igloo-shaped enclosures made from a framework of steel reinforcing bars covered in a form of concrete called gunite, whose nobbly texture evidently suits bats.

It is likely that the bat hotel, or *chiroptorium, will be occupied by Mexican* free-tail bats as soon as it is finished as they *already colonise virtually every building in* the vicinity. More than a million roost under a bridge *in nearby Austin.*

As a further temptation, Mr Bamberger — who has spent $250,000 (£150,000) on the cave's 22 tons of steel bar, 10,000 square feet of metal lath, and 250 square yards of gunite — is providing a temperature-controlled environment and a layer of bat guano on the floor.

Playing the field for greater yields

ONE of the world's oldest agricultural experiments has celebrated its hundredth anniversary. In 1897 the Palace Leas field at Newcastle University's Cockle Park Farm, near Morpeth, was divided into 13 plots, each half an acre in size. The original aim was to discover how to produce the greatest yield of hay, by varying grass species and types of fertiliser, but since then the plots have been used for many purposes.

Dr Robert Shiel, who has managed the experiment since 1980, says that it has had important impacts on farming. "Seed mix*tures developed using the results of the* experiments and the duo of basic slag [a *phosphate fertiliser*] and wild *white* clover had a big impact on grassland farming in *northern Britain.*"

Many of the original fertilisers are outdated, but they are still used to test the sustainability of production. Organic farmers can take particular comfort from the results. "Yield on the manure plots has always been greater than on the fertiliser-treated plots," says Dr Shiel. "Cows also seem to prefer these plots — they are obviously tastier."

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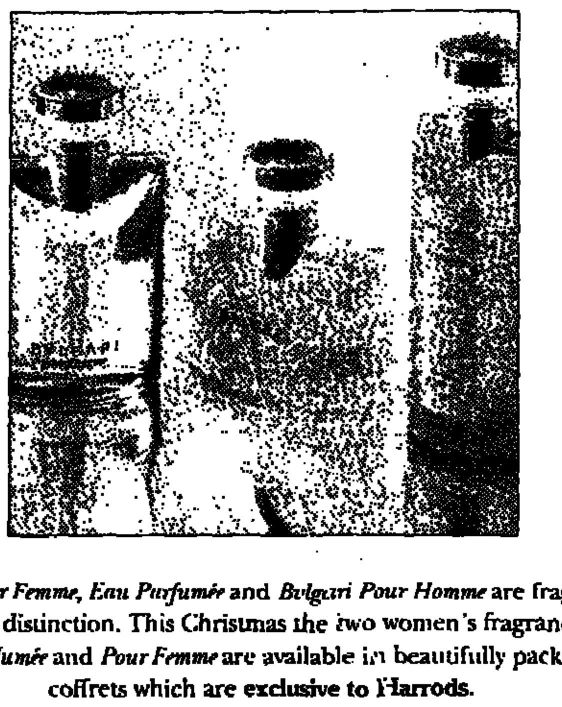

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‘I hated successful authors’

One day novelist Rob Mawson was trying to sign on the dole, the next he was a publishing property worth millions. Interview by **Libby Purves**

ALBAN DONOHOE

The glittering finger of success pointed to Robert Mawson, an unassuming 41-year-old whose first book sank without trace and who had sold his house and business

Autumn, Frankfurt time, is the season when struggling authors dream of overnight success. Throw another chair leg on the fire, hold off the bailiffs and tell heroic tales of gallant but broke Davids who took millions off the publishing Goliaths. Invoke *The Horse Whisperer* and *Gridiron*, bids from Robert Redford and deals with Disney.

This year did not disappoint: the glittering finger pointed to Robert Mawson, an unassuming 41-year-old whose first book sank without trace and who had sold his last security, house and business to write alone in a borrowed French cottage.

“I thought that if I just kept going for a year and did three manuscripts, one might earn enough for me to afford to keep writing,” he says. In the event, *The Lazarus Child* created a frenzy that culminated in a man from Transworld camping on the agent’s doorstep at dawn, and Mr Mawson being offered more than £2 million within a week of posting the manuscript. In Suffolk, where he has been a casual school-gate acquaintance since the 1980s, I can vouch for the fact that a lot of toast-crumbs went down the wrong way when the news broke of his transformation from “Poor old Rob” into a publishing property cited in the same breath as Elton John’s memoirs.

His own shock was even greater. When the call came through he was back in England, had just failed to sign on the dole because his stamps were wrong and was battling for a council tax rebate so he could replace his word processor (it broke down halfway through printing the manuscript). I found him in a holiday cottage in Aldeburgh, amid the dead starfish and collected pebbles of someone else’s summer holidays. This, he says, is the only interview he will give before publication in May. “I don’t get it yet,” he says. “Part of me is still back with that poor guy in France.”

He has a serious, melancholy cast of face: partly practical, outdoor, public-school chap, partly demon-driven romantic. If struggles are the stuff of fiction, he has known his share. He walked unqualified out of Westminster school at 17 and served three years as a bloodstock insurance broker, “knowing nothing about horses or insurance”. Then he did up his father’s 26ft boat and sailed it to the Mediterranean before coming home to work on a moribund boating magazine, “doing everything, including writing the readers’ letters”. In his mid-twenties it closed and he was redundant.

“By then I had boxes full of things I had written. Unpublished short stories, essays, synopses, attempted biographies, pages beginning ‘It was a dark and stormy night . . .’ I was always driven to write.”

But, newly married, he took a job in an Ipswich advertising agency — “A thousand words about an industrial vacuum cleaner, and make it interesting.”

‘I had boxes of things I’d written. I was driven to write’

The unpublished boxes of “embarrassing stuff” continued to mount, as did a panicky restlessness. “I didn’t want to be stuck in a job and not writing.” He need not have worried: the firm folded and he was redundant again. He spent his savings on flying lessons, obtained a commercial pilot’s licence and flew air taxis out of Norwich. By 1983 he had transferred to airships, at the time thought to be on the verge of a comeback. “They are wonderful, and under-exploited. You had to take the odd seasick pill, but it was great.”

For the next seven years the airships kept the Mawsons floating high: affluent, living in a pretty Suffolk house, with three small children (now 13, 12 and 10), nannies and gardeners. “I wasn’t home enough for my liking,” Mr Mawson says, “otherwise it was fine.” He wrote an aviation thriller described by an agent as “long on aviation, short on thrills”, and began to study the mechanics of novel-writing. He bought how-to books and read eclectically: “John Fowles, the Amises, Burgess, Patrick O’Brien, Iain Banks, Thomas Hardy . . .” He brooded on characters, and the crises into which they could be plunged.

Fate was planning the same for him. In 1990, Mr Mawson was again made redundant, this time in a recession. He refused to look for another job, but used his payoff to buy time to write his first published novel, *A Ship Called Hope*. “I thought, what do I know about? Redundancy! Families! I imagined this guy, Peter, worked out just how bad it could get and let it run from there. The book just tumbled out.”

A Ship Called Hope does not deserve its obscurity, although the publishers failed to promote or encourage their tentative author. It is a raw-edged novel, but still a harrowingly believable picture of a yuppie marriage hitting the financial rocks. In the heyday of the woman-centred Aga saga it told a man’s story, sparing no part of his financial and social humiliation as he fails to find work, panics, cheats the bank and ends up in a rundown cottage with a contemptuous wife and their small children. He retreats to the shed to fire off ever more hopeless CVs, and is saved from suicide only by a gesture from his son.

Paradoxically, Mr Mawson was rather enjoying his own redundancy. “I had a brilliant year: stayed at home, wrote the novel, joined the PTA, helped out at the school, met the boys every afternoon with the baby on the back of my pushbike, started a band [Sunday Driver, with the wives as go-go dancers]. I felt I had roots at last.”

But before it could be published, things went wrong. His marriage did not survive the change of lifestyle, and in 1992 he was an unwilling divorcé. “Being a parent is drip, drip, drip — a bit here, a bit there, just being around. It’s not being this wonder-person who comes and does fun things for a few hours then goes away.

“I am not comfortable being a weekend father. It upsets me. Family break-up is the bottomless tragedy of our time.”

For four years he lived nearby, setting up a copywriting business with a partner and producing two and a half unpublishable manuscripts. “I couldn’t apply myself full-time. I wasn’t happy, clients weren’t happy.” So he sold his share of the business, making things even bleaker.

‘Money was a real problem, I became depressed, took Prozac’

“Money was more and more of a problem, I got depressed, took Prozac.” Early this year he sold his small house and borrowed the French cottage. “Seeing the children less was the worst bit.”

There, alone in Anjou, he wrote *The Lazarus Child*, the story of parents with a daughter in a coma. He rattles off its themes in intense shorthand: “Families, imminent break-up thereof — conflict, but both loving the children. The business of coma, and people waking who’ve been written off. Do you switch someone off or not? There’s no right answer. More conflict. Science outstripping our ability to manage it morally. Medical funding. There’s always a stressed-out couple in the papers pleading for £100,000 to send someone to a miracle clinic in Switzerland.”

He wrote fast, withdrawn from friends and family. “I told everyone that after a year I’d find a real job and rejoin the human race. But I knew I’d do no such thing. I was going to keep going.”

Coming out of this obsessive tunnel into the light of financial relief and the glare of publicity, he remains cautious and downbeat. He wants a home close to the children, time to see friends again, sail, organise his reclusive bouts of writing with more logic. “It means I can get a life.”

At least he can now go into bookshops without crumbling into depression. “I hated successful authors. I’d look around and see how many books there were and say God, *who are all these people*?”

Now everything is different. The week the news broke I saw him in the local bookshop, where his arrival drew gasps of: “Phwoarr! You know who that is, don’t you?” The new megastar is not ready for this yet. He fled with consummate embarrassment to hide in the stationery section.

Fear of flooding

It is a truth not fully appreciated that there is no such thing as an emergency 24-hour plumber — and this includes those so-called “Genuine Emergency 24-Hour a Day, 365 Days a Year” plumbers.

The mains pipe went off like a grenade in the loft of our house at 5am one Sunday. The lodger raced downstairs and beat on our door, rousing me from a dream that involved whitewater rafting in the Grand Canyon. Grabbing my spectacles and a dressing-gown, I ran upstairs. Cataracts were coursing down the walls, ceilings were bulging, sodden wallpaper was unravelling before our eyes. And the water was black. When the Georgian houses of Edinburgh were built soot was put between the roof beams to act as insulation. Soot is a good insulator, but a serious drawback in a flood.

Above me there was a dull roar, like the noise made by the Stori geyser in Iceland. I pushed open the trapdoor and shone my torch on to a scene of Stygian horror: a jet of water was spewing from a pipe that thrashed about like an animal in pain. I grabbed the pipe and tried to reattach it. The force of water was so great that the two bits sprang apart. I jammed my thumb into the hole, like the Dutch boy at the dyke. Icy water sprayed out everywhere, drenching me, splattering my spectacles.

Uncontrolled flooding induces a Jungian-style psychosis — it probably goes back to Noah. I had visions of the house collapsing inwards, taking me, the family and the lodger to a watery end.

Then I remembered there was an opening on to the roof of the house. Holding the leaping pipe in one hand, I struggled to the hatch, and heaved upwards. It flew open, revealing the dawn above. I directed the geyser towards the heavens. Any passer-by would have seen a plume of spray issuing from the roof, as from the blowhole of a whale.

Downstairs, my wife was ringing emergency plumbers. The *Yellow Pages* are littered with them. Most boast a 24-hour service, adding reassuring phrases such as “on-site within one hour guaranteed”. Some insert the word “genuine” — thus instilling the first seeds of doubt.

She got through six pages without success. Most simply didn’t answer. Others had an answering service, inviting callers to try “during office hours”. One referred all calls to a central number that never replied. Not one produced action.

My wife was on the point of calling the fire brigade when our lodger pulled off a miracle: she found the mains stopcock, buried under a heap of dusters in the broom cupboard. She turned it off.

Up in the loft a crazed-looking creature in a sodden dressing-gown stared as the spouting pipe came to a dribbling halt. All was silence. Except that from downstairs came the seeping sounds of a house absorbing water and damp soot — and a mounting sense of a drama turning into crisis.

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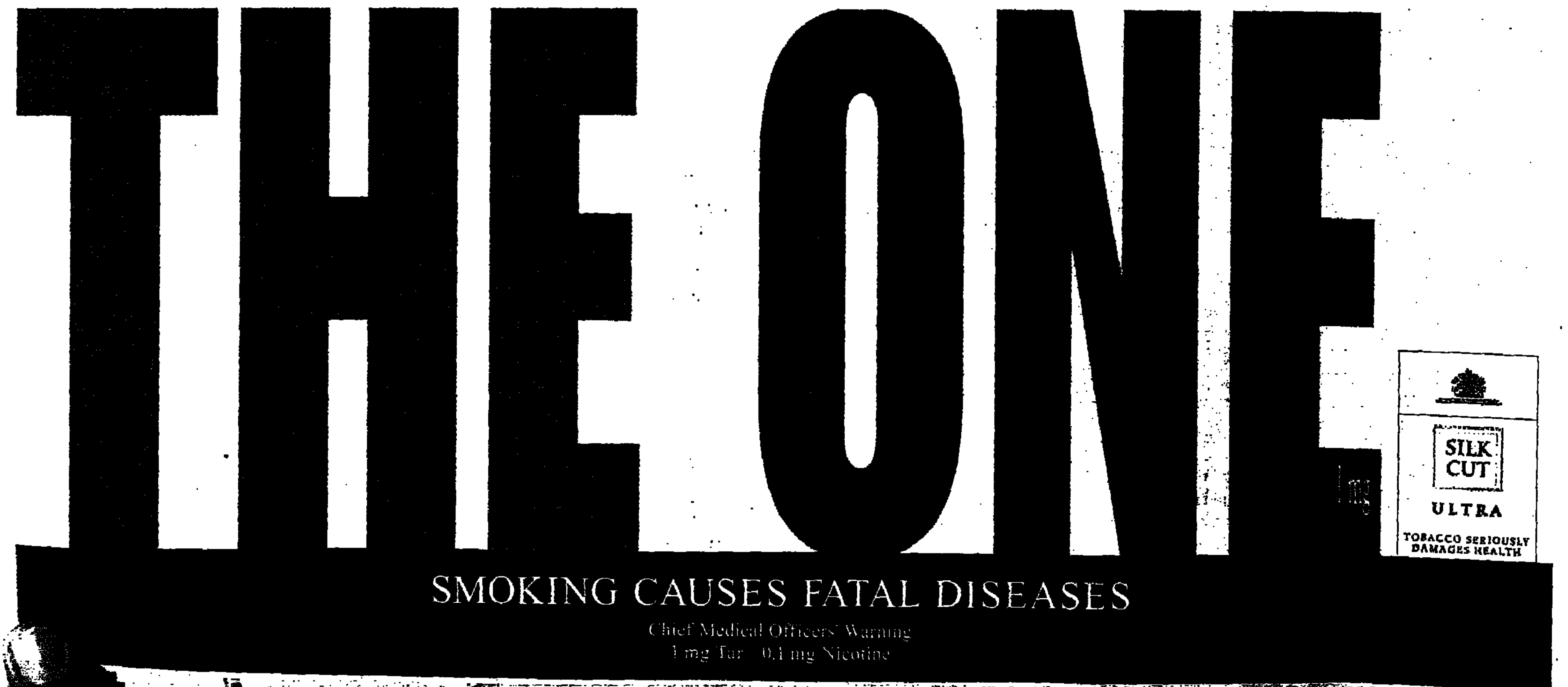

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A black eye and a sense of pride

Erica Wagner tackled an army assault course and came out bruised but triumphant

I'm not brave. I don't mind saying it; I'll say it as often as anyone wants to hear it. Physical courage has never been high among my priorities. Life is scary enough without bungee-jumping or parachuting, or even skiing or scaling ladders of moderate height.

Modern life is wonderful because there are no longer very many sabre-toothed tigers to face down in order to obtain one's dinner: a trip to the market will do me fine. When I was nine I fell off a bicycle; I have, ever since, mounted bicycles with reluctance. But that is me in the pictures on this page.

I'm glad that there are pictures, because if there weren't nobody I know would believe that I made it over the Army's assault course at the Army Training Regiment in Pirbright, Surrey. But I did. Well — all right. Almost. And I have a black eye to prove it.

Five thousand young recruits pass through the Training Regiment every year: a third of the Army's recruitment. It is the first phase of their training — an introductory course of between one and four weeks leads into 11 weeks of rigorous basic training that will prepare them for the second phase of training at arms and services centres around the country. These days 20 per cent of Pirbright's intake are women: a significant rise over the past few years, according to Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Vandeleur, the commanding officer.

And the whole face of the military will change, after the Government's decision to allow women to apply to some previously all-male frontline units from next April. Currently, 47 per cent of Army jobs are open to women; after April that figure will rise to 70 per cent.

It is an issue that is hard not to treat personally. Colonel Vandeleur makes that plain when he gives a bald example of some of the difficulties raised by the notion of women in the front lines: "What happens in a trench, when there are bullets flying, and a platoon sergeant who's having an affair with a soldier doesn't ask her to go over the top and risk her life — how will the person he asks instead feel?"

On the rope and seconds away from a black eye

It's impossible to say — but then friendships and relationships grow between people of the same sex too.

The issue becomes even more personal when you think to ask yourself — whatever your opinion — what about me? How would I do?

Of course, a day on the assault course at Pirbright bears little relation to 11 weeks of training, never mind a spell in a trench. But I had never even considered either of those options, and it seemed a far enough cry from my usual job as Literary Editor of *The Times* (where I do, I should point out, occasionally drag really quite heavy sacks of books and even climb the occasional stepladder) to make the question worth asking. So off I went to Pirbright.

Here's what I could do: lace my boots. Here's what I couldn't do: fasten my helmet. I stood feeling somewhat helpless as Captain Nick Challoner (Officer Commanding, Remedial Training) and Warrant Officer Murfin yanked the straps by the sides of my ears, my chinstrap pulling my bottom jaw tight against my top — all the better, I suppose, to stop my teeth chattering. Which they were, as I had just run alongside a group of recruits in their ninth week of training, watching them complete an 800-yard course of 29 obstacles in six minutes. Under wires, through tunnels, over walls — and afterwards they panted and stamped like excited horses.

They loved it, they said; it was a challenge; you learnt to help each other. It was hard at first when you felt on your own but now it was different, you worked together. They were about half and half, men and women — or boys and girls, most of them 16 to 18 — and when they were in full flight over the course it was hard to tell the difference between them. Anyone stronger gave someone weaker a yank or a helpful shove: it was just a sea of thundering green. And then it was my turn.

The start was easy; but then I figured it would be. A few jumps over wide, shallow trenches — bend your knees when you land, bend your knees, said Murf (Murf right away — he couldn't be anything else — encouraging, insistent). That was his constant refrain, which seemed, even to me, at this point, unnecessary. Yes, yes, I know, I remember from the playground.

But this playground changed character pretty quickly. Going under the wire, a combat crawl on elbows and knees, was OK too, except that my elbows and knees have completely changed colour since yesterday (but at least they match my eye).

I didn't have any questions yet about why I was bothering to do this or what was driving me on; I didn't even have them at the roof obstacle, a steeply-pitched wooden triangle that calls for a gallop and scramble to the top — and when I didn't make it the first time I said something that Murf maintained might not be fit to print in *The Times*. It wasn't. But suddenly, for some reason, I cared.

I wanted to get over, I wanted to run at it again, even though I could feel my legs were already starting to shake and I knew that — being only a journalist, PRESS emblazoned like a badge of shame on my helmet — I could have stopped at any time or said no thanks, I've had enough, and that would have been the end of it.

But from the start I knew that the only person who thought I might not be able to do this course was me. I'm not very tall but nobody except me saw any reason why I shouldn't be just fine. Fifteen feet above the ground, standing on a single knotted rope, it only seemed to be a question of knowing where to put your hands and feet. Reach out; hold this; grab that and swing.

I guess I was feeling reckless by the time I reached the wall and the rope swing: knees tucked under my chin, I swung over an expanse of water about the same colour as my fatigues — but when I let go of the rope it gave me a smack in the face and my shiner. It pulled me up short and I balked at the next one, gave up, went round. Now I wish I hadn't.

I didn't make it over the wall either, the last obstacle but one; or only with a helpful shove from behind; and I should have guessed what might happen when I swung out — tried to swing out — hand over hand, over another one of those muddy green ponds.

By then my back and arms seemed to be made of something other than bone and muscle and down I went into the cold water. It was the last straw; I was done for. But it was the end, at last.

I didn't do it in six minutes; I didn't do it all. But I did more than I ever thought I would and I was glad. I believed Captain Challoner and Warrant Officer Murfin when they told me I'd done well.

"Most of the women that come through here are quicker to learn than the men," Colonel Vandeleur said. "They're often less fit at the start, but they can make that up." A woman is often named best recruit in the shooting competition at the end of the 11 weeks.

There's no bravery without fear, or strength without weakness. I'm not about to join the Army. But I might just get on a bicycle again.

DES JENS

The final obstacle and the last straw: from here it was down all the way into a lurking pool of cold, green, muddy water

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The Chancellor keeps the aspidistra flying

It is not customary to look to a Chancellor of the Exchequer to deliver a major statement on British history and culture. But that is what Gordon Brown did last week.

"I want to talk about Britishness," he said, in his *Spectator* lecture, "about what Orwell called the British Genius." This he proceeded to do in a sweep which included telling references to 2,000 years of history: Isaac Newton, DNA, Palmerston, the Cold War, the Bill of Rights in 1689, Edmund Burke and his own positive view of the future of Britishness on the international exchanges.

It was exhilarating, the sort of thoughtful, well-read overview laced with personal commitment which you thought had withered away. I find a telling echo in the newly published book *A Defence of History* by Richard Evans in which he seems to me to revalidate those great attempts at narrative and comprehensive history — Macaulay, Trevelyan — which were dismissed from the field lately but are now claiming back their legitimacy. There is another echo to Brown's thesis in the trend I discussed in these columns a couple of weeks ago, the coincidental adoption by several "literary" novelists of the much dismissed historical novel. But the greatest echo of all is in the increasing attention being paid all over the land — spurred on, perhaps, by the millennium — to what we think we are, our new identity.

The Chancellor has been worrying this issue for some time. I remember, months before the election, being cornered by him and listening to a quite passionate outpouring — much of which became the keystone of last week's lecture, which will surely in its turn become a key text in public thinking on this enormous subject.

The strength of his feeling about Britishness has nothing opportunistic in it. When we first discussed it, election to office was only a possibility, a 179 majority beyond fantasy. Basically, it seems to me, he believes that our view of ourselves since 1945 has been at best inadequate, at worst damaging, and consistently at odds with the real dynamics of our political history, our sciences and the culture of our society. Fundamental to the whole argument is whether it matters at all. Does the definition of ourselves as British — or, more importantly, does a positive definition of ourselves today as the adaptable, inventive, tolerant, anti-insular people so persuasively evoked by the Chancellor — make a difference to our lives or to our future?

He cut through the thickets of the past 50 years, giving credit to the attempts made by Macmillan, Wilson and, notably, Thatcher to give us a new role, a new character. In my view he proved — if such a thing can be proved — that Britishness does matter in many ways to the great majority. A vital sentence in his lecture was a response to a question he asked himself: what is the essence of Britishness to me? "I believe that when we talk about the character of a country, we are not talking about some mystery of the blood or a pattern on a flag, just as we are not talking only about its traditional institutions. We are talking about the qualities of the people, of the collective experience they have shared over time, qualities that are rooted in their geography and their history."

MELVYN BRAGG

Brown spoke about Britain as a country that had resisted the seduction of crude totalitarian state power and never more than briefly flirted with mere brutal individualism. From Runnymede, through four great 19th-century Reform Acts to the present constitutional programme of reformation, *at our best* we have attempted, in the slippery complex of a large and uneven society, to hold the ring between the individual and the state. He spoke of our openness to change and pointed out that our mongrel racial past — Celts, Saxons, Vikings, Normans, Jews, Huguenots, Asians, Africans, Caribbeans — has enriched us and both tested and strengthened our tolerance. For liberty we have often fought and often led and in the sciences and the arts the list is impressive — in some cases, barely equalled.

And he talked about Europe, about our inextricable links with it in migration, in conquest, in war, in peace, in culture and in contiguity, just as our island state — far from marooning us — has more often provoked us to probe and rove the world. The generally voluntary British diaspora has been and remains an extraordinary global phenomenon.

Does it matter? It matters a lot, I think, that after 50 years of uncertainty, of imperial shrinkage and meek acceptance of often glib accusations of shame and guilt, an altogether larger, more generous haul from our past is being brought forward by someone so central to the politics, mood and tone of the country.

What makes a people, what common chords bind, what common themes move 60 million distinct individuals is a subject that can languish in a helpless Sargasso Sea of imponderables and unprovables. But we know our Britishness when we see it and feel it. For too long it has been fragmented and even a little embarrassing. Brown's achievement at the start of this Government and as a prologue to a new century is to have called to our attention the best of what we were, and what makes us a people capable of doing as much again. Like his hero Orwell he has told it like it is.

Two tribes go to war

KEVIN LOW

Manes: "A return to the tribal and the primal, a new paganism forged from the flux of technocracy and the lack of something to believe in, and rooted in the here and now"

Manes
Tramway, Glasgow
The Weavers
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Art and revolution have always been strange bedfellows. So much about change, breaking down barriers and moving forward, yet so hidebound by convention, so prepared to play by the old rules. Which is why these two large-scale productions, so ambitious in scope yet so different in approach, are two sides of the same dialectic coin. The way they interact with and among audiences, blurring the relationship, is always to the fore, albeit in seemingly disparate ways.

Catalan guerrillas La Fura dels Baus parachuted into Glasgow's Tramway for their only British dates the day before Guy Fawkes night, but were already firing on all cylinders. What you get is half a dozen fit and furious boys and girls in various states of undress running around to a terrifying and deafening techno soundtrack, dragging the promenading audience behind them and among them, and not so much crawling from the wreckage as jumping right in the thick of it, scuzzing things up even further before spewing out their bile.

The elemental debris includes copious spillages of fire, water, flower, food, and, yes, dead chickens. All the off-the-peg trappings of performance art, you might think, but also a return to the tribal and the primal, a new paganism forged from the flux of technocracy and the lack of something to believe in, and rooted in the here and now. Like some sort of aggressive Zen, **Manes** seeks to purify through destruction, only to come mewling into the light to build a new place with a new set of constructions, restrictions and, inevitably, frustrations. By the end, the strange, solitary pods they first spewed from are the only place they can call home, but what a breathtaking, exhilarating journey it's been getting there.

Also hellbent on destruction are the weavers of Gerhart Hauptmann's play, adapted into Scots for this Tramway/Dundee Rep co-commission by Bill Findlay. Probably the first consciously socialist play, **The Weavers** tells of how a community's livelihood is ripped asunder by fat capitalist cats and how, instead of dying gracefully, the community fights back and reclaims its dignity.

Resistance comes, as is often the case, after a dram, as the town is galvanised into action by returning soldier Jaegar (Peter Grimes). A born leader of the gang, he stokes the fire of revolt, marching into genteel mansions and taking them by force. When the tide turns, though, it's still the little man who gets it in the neck.

As an epic history lesson, Hamish Glenn and Anna Newell's production can get muddied simply by the weight of numbers on stage, as 14 professionals and a supporting cast of more than 30 battle to express some kind of personality beyond the collective. Which is always the way with community theatre. The tubthumping rhetoric it preaches has developed its own generic rules, in much the same way as work akin to *Manes* has.

Which is why, although both are predictable, they are also very necessary. Both shows also explore, in a practical, constructive way, the dignity of labour, as mammoth sets are built up, knocked down again, only to be stacked higher, prouder, stronger.

Most of all, though, both are watersheds in their respective fields. The old days are long gone, and even the new ones feel like yesterday. And tomorrow? Ah, but tomorrows never come.

NEIL COOPER

Watergate played for laughs

Not that many years ago I tried to dye my black hair ash blond with a homemade kit. (I promise it was a trend in Edinburgh in the early 1980s.) But for reasons beyond my ken it went lime green. On the evidence of Nick Darke's scalding satire on the water industry I now know that it all boils down to the toxicity of H^2O. The more acidic the rinse, the greener the hair. Obviously the local water company pumped 20 tons of aluminium sulphate down the wrong tube in a treatment plant.

Such is the state of play in Darke's satire, based on a real incident in Cornwall. The facts, however, have been softened into farce. We know this because Mike Shepherd's Milt, our water watchdog, takes his clothes off as soon as he gets on stage. "Think of it Milt," sighs his luscious lab technician, Patsy, cradling a bottle of Ribena-coloured tap water, "all those years spent in Pollution Control without a single conviction."

This is Milt's chance of a lifetime. He drinks a litre for science but it rapidly transpires that his sex life and Ph level are in unholy empathy. He not only loses his mind, his house and his scruples but also bits of his body.

Andy Hay's production has a sharp, timely spike, but the performances are calibrated by their content rather than conviction. Andrew Hilton's Baines, a heavyweight civil servant and cover-up specialist, takes matters under hand, so to speak. Emma Bown's Patsy gradually reveals herself to be a militant psycho. And Shepherd has the best of both worlds as he deteriorates into a farting green-haired amnesiac before our eyes. Darke has the imagination but not the cryptic skill of Ray Cooney.

The real joy of Hay's production is Mike Bearwish's set. This is a piece of potting shed genius. Panels, bookshelves and walls open up like an Advent calendar. Cameos, notably Don Campbell, who plays the ghost of a poisoned poacher whose brain everyone is chasing either to destroy or use as evidence, pops out of the freezer, through the plughole of a (working) sink, and amazingly (I don't use this word lightly) in a fish tank.

The *pièce de résistance* is a scale model of a chemical tanker which reverses through the medicine cabinet to spontaneous applause. However mouldy you think Darke's political targets — Tory conspiracies, privatisation — his comic sense of spectacle is second to none.

JAMES CHRISTOPHER

Seventh heaven

CONCERTS

London heard the Seventh Symphonies of both Bruckner and Mahler on consecutive nights last week, and the performances underlined the vast differences between a pair of composers too often bracketed together. Two of the big challenges in the repertory, the scores have little in common apart from enormous length.

Of the two symphonies, the Mahler may be the less obviously coherent, but **Michael Tilson Thomas** and the **London Symphony Orchestra** made brilliant sense of it at the Barbican. As his Mahler cycle with the LSO a few years ago proved, Tilson Thomas takes care of the details while also maintaining a long-term grip on structure. He is one of those interpreters who sees the Seventh as optimistic music rather than a dark piece with an exuberant but hollow finale, and this was a very positive account.

The orchestra played splendidly for him, with real bite in the blazing march of the first movement, but also finesse. The second of the nocturnal movements, coloured by the mandolin, was full of sentimentality, and while the scherzo did not sound as diabolical as it can, it lacked nothing in terms of power. Tilson Thomas's flamboyant style did not stop him giving a most subtle performance.

Ivan Fischer's Bruckner at the Festival Hall with the **London Philharmonic** was less convincing, in spite of his care for detail: even more than in the Mahler, a conductor here needs to know in every bar where the music is heading, and Fischer's tempo changes in the difficult outer movements were unsettling.

The LPO concert was memorable, though, for the premiere of Jonathan Dove's new work and a refined performance of Mozart's Clarinet Concerto featuring the eloquent Sabine Meyer. In *The Ringing Isle*, commissioned by BT, Dove has once again written arresting music for people to enjoy. Clearly structured and crisply scored, the six-minute "fanfare for orchestra" comes cascading out with an Adams-like energy, but the sounds are unmistakably British: ringing bells are evoked through interlocking textures and rhythms, and on every instrument from the silvery flutes and tinkling glockenspiel downwards.

JOHN ALLISON

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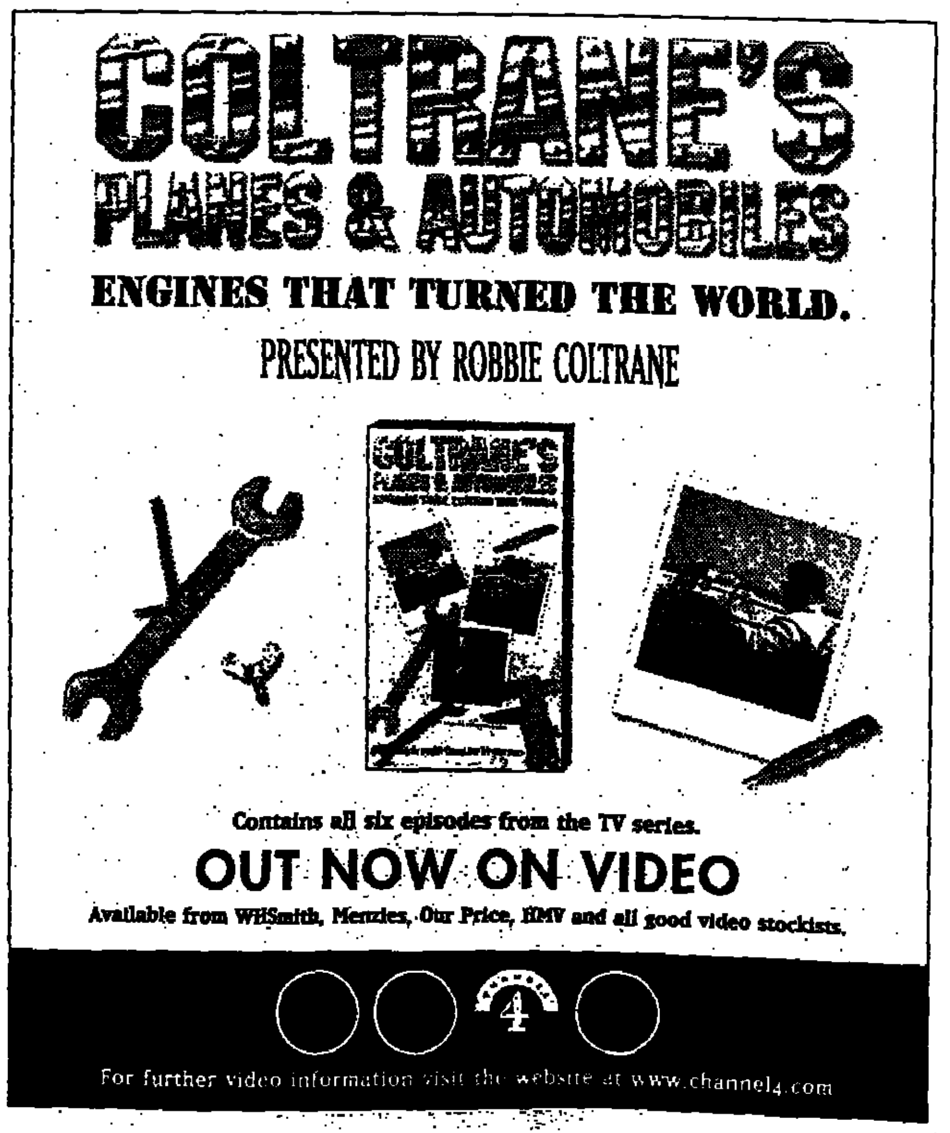

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Mary Allen, Covent Garden's chief executive, offers a frank explanation to **Richard Morrison**

A fine mess, but we'll fix it

ANDRE CAMARA

I'll be keeping an eye on you: Mary Allen and the Culture Secretary, Chris Smith, at the Cannes Festival last May

Considering that she has been through what she describes as "the worst week of my life", the chief executive of the Royal Opera House looks surprisingly perky. Transferred in May from running the Arts Council to running Covent Garden — in circumstances generally agreed to be a bit dodgy — Mary Allen spent the summer keeping her head down and dreaming of the glories of the Garden when it reopens after its £213 million redevelopment.

"I came here on September 1 with my head full of plans for the new house: cheaper tickets, accessibility, open foyers all day, that sort of thing. I expected the closure plans and budgets to have been sorted by then. Ten days later, I was shown the budgets." A rude awakening? "Yes. They revealed a huge problem."

It was a problem that grew into last week's melodrama: a public admission by Lord Chadlington, Covent Garden's chairman, that the opera house was all but bankrupt, followed by the last-ditch effort that conjured a £15 million rescue package. How had this near-catastrophe occurred?

"Normally the opera house runs advance box-office sales of between £4.5 million and £5 million," Allen says. "So we can sustain a deficit of that level without having a cash crisis. But in the summer, when we started booking at other venues, the advance fell, so we needed extra cash."

That was Crisis No 1, averted by a £2 million loan from the usual deep pockets on the Covent Garden board. Then came Crisis No 2.

"In the autumn," Allen continues, "sales fell far lower than forecast." For the Royal Ballet's Labatt's Apollo season? "No. For everything. I realised we would run out of cash. So I called an insolvency practitioner and said: 'How long have I got?' He said: 'Ten days to a fortnight'."

When was that? "Oh, about ten days to a fortnight ago."

It wasn't just ticket sales. Allen admits that costs had been underestimated too. She reworked the closure budget three times, cutting foreign tours and a "small number" of London productions. "The problem is that the closure plans contract us to occupy certain theatres for certain periods. If you don't put work in them, you lose money."

So there was no alternative to last week's begging-bowl operation. Allen will not reveal the details of who put up what, nor even rule out the possibility that money earmarked for the redevelopment has been diverted to this more pressing need. "In any case, that would not be a sudden departure," she says. "In 1996 it was agreed by the board, albeit reluctantly, that some money would have to come from the Trust to cover closure costs."

However, even as the opera house secured its medium-term future, an even greater threat to its long-term operation suddenly loomed. Chris Smith, Culture Secretary, suggested last Monday that English National Opera might also share the redeveloped Covent Garden with the Royal Opera and Ballet. Allen says it was "surprising and unfortunate" that Smith had not warned either opera house or the Arts Council about the proposal, and that he gave the impression that he had already made his mind up, when in fact he was announcing a consultation process.

But if he had simply announced a waffly Arts Council-style review, wouldn't everybody have yawned and ignored him? This way, he has planted a time-bomb under the derrières in the Crush Bar.

"I don't agree," Allen says. "All this has done is driven everyone into their bunkers. Of course I understand his frustration. When you look at the arts world from the outside, you think: 'For heaven's sake, it must be possible to sort out that mess.' But you only have to be in here for a week to understand exactly why many highly intelligent people can't sort it out, because it's about clashing vested interests."

Ah yes, the vested interests. But aren't they exactly what Smith wants to eliminate at Covent Garden? Isn't it vested interests that keep the place exclusive? Allen bridles at the suggestion. "Absolutely not. Of course there are major financial issues involved in charging £50 instead of £100 for a ticket, so there may be resistance for that reason. But I have not encountered resistance from anyone here to the principle of bringing a broader range of people in."

Allen admits that the "old" Covent Garden was "very intimidating" to outsiders. "People tended to know each other, they dressed in a certain way, and because the place was crowded you were forced into close contact with them as they greeted each other over your shoulder. But the new place won't be like that. We'll have far more space."

Allen's optimism is, in the circumstances, bracing. She has even come to terms with the public roasting she got over her "behind closed doors" appointment. "It caused me immense distress. The summer was just awful. I've never met a journalist who realises the pain that is caused by a vicious barb in print."

But didn't she realise how her appointment would be perceived? "No. Perhaps I was phenomenally naive. But when Jenny [McIntosh, her short-lived predecessor] decided to go, I had a choice: I was either going to sit there as Arts Council secretary-general and watch the opera house collapse while they tried to find someone else, or have a go at mending it myself."

She has found far more to mend than she realised. But she thinks she has turned the corner. "If I ask myself 'is this the worst it can get?', I think I can now answer yes. We now have realistic plans in place. I have a pretty clear idea about why the management structures don't work, and how to change them. And the redevelopment is running on time. Thank God."

Hidden agenda

DANCE

Wim Vandekeybus
Blackpool

AMID all the funfair glitz and end-of-the-pier jollity, another, more esoteric form of entertainment is taking hold in Blackpool. It is called contemporary dance, and its new home is the Grand Theatre.

Thanks to sponsorship from Basil Newby, the man who owns Funny Girls, Blackpool's famous transvestite showbar, the Grand has become the foremost venue for contemporary dance in the North West, and the only theatre in the region commissioning new work from British choreographers.

The theatre scored a hit this year with its commissioning of Siobhan Davies's *Bank*, while a piece from Richard Alston is in the pipeline. The Grand is also keen to promote international talent, people such as the Belgian choreographer Wim Vandekeybus, who brought the British premiere of his *Seven for a secret never to be told* to Blackpool last week.

As its title implies, Vandekeybus's latest is inspired by the traditional Irish magpie rhyme. Presented in seven independent scenes, it is defined by seven words: sorrow, joy, girl, boy, silver, gold and secret. The way that it plays on our need for superstition, and the way it feeds off the ambiguity of mystery should make the rhyme a good starting point for a piece of thoughtful dance-theatre. Indeed, there are plenty of ideas here that could have taken flight — if only Vandekeybus were not so prone to over-intellectualisation. The Belgian choreographs like a man who reads philosophy at the breakfast table: there are so many secretive connections here that we despair of ever deciphering his creative agenda.

There are nine dancers on Isabelle Lhoas's ever-changing set. One is Carlos de Haro Flores's magpie, a spooky, malevolent bird who collides with and coerces the dancers. John Campbell's messenger-witness seems to be some kind of victim, a man who made the mistake of magpie spotting when he should have been spotting trains. The stage is busy with enigmatic transformations and tawdry freak show turns, boxes of fire and killer feathers that hurtle down from on high like daggers from heaven — by far the most potent image in this production.

The choreography is pugilistic and paranoid, self-destructive and demented, with occasional passages of bluntly beautiful dance. The members of Vandekeybus's Ultima Vez company are an impressive bunch, hard-working and committed to his belligerently obscure scenario. If there is a secret here, he's not telling.

DEBRA CRAINE

Still kicking

POP

Phil Collins
NEC, Birmingham

ANOTHER British tour, another opening in Birmingham, and another loud raspberry for Phil Collins's detractors. When he opened his last set of UK dates at this venue in October 1994, Collins was weazel of the week in the tabloid press, thanks to his voraciously-reported marital problems. Then after his *Dance Into The Light* album last year, it became *de rigueur* not only to emphasise his apparent fall from commercial favour but to hold him up as a prime kill in Britpop's massacre of elderly rockers.

So, after a decade and a half as the happy chappy of British showbiz, Collins comes to this tour as a most unlikely underdog. In reality, his reduced circumstances still allowed *Dance Into The Light* to become a European million-seller, and looking around a sold-out NEC, he has little to worry about.

It was soon clear that his riposte to the relentless negativity is to invite his loyalists into the inner chamber, show them a good evening by conducting business as usual, and thereby tell the rest of the world precisely where it can go. If a lack of creative daring was an undoubted factor in his declining profile, no one here was counting.

A show of spotless technical excellence was presented in the round, drum kits emerging futuristically from below. For openers, Phil the Occasional Drummer led his skin-tight band through an Afro-Brazilian instrumental warm-up. Recent songs were greeted politely, but inevitably it was the giant singles that hit the spot. The cloying sentiment of *Against All Odds* and *Separate Lives* was played out theatrically with his fine vocalists, Amy Keys and Arnold McCuller, the latter starring again on *Easy Lover*, which signalled happy hour.

By the time of *You Can't Hurry Love* the crowd was rolling back the carpet, and Collins milked the mood with a medley including *Two Hearts* and *Sussudio*. Streamers fired from the ceiling and the king of 1980s pop was back in his counting house.

PAUL SEXTON

This week in THE TIMES

■ THEATRE

British premiere for *Sive* starring Catherine Walker at the Watford Palace
OPENS: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Thursday

■ MUSIC

Esa-Pekka Salonen explores Ligeti's music at the Festival Hall
CONCERT: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Thursday

■ FILM

Demi Moore seeks to penetrate bastions of male power in *G.I. Jane*
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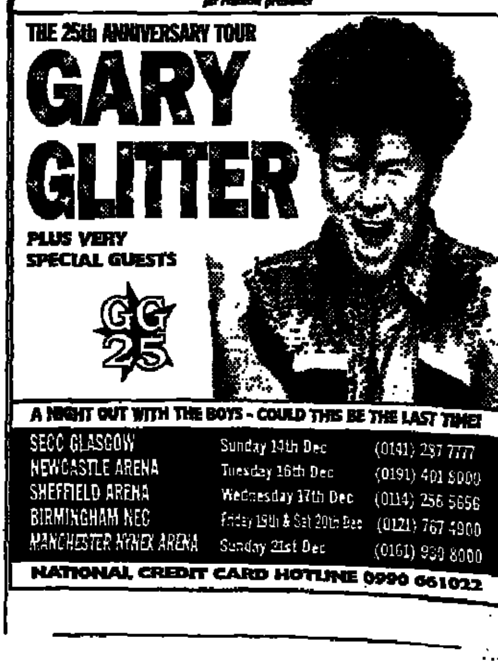

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How 'science' can confuse morality

Roger Scruton on sex education, hunting and common sense

In a world without God, science is the only authority. Science has theories, results and experts. It answers questions and you don't answer back. Coffee-table books by smooth-talking Darwinists become more precious than Bibles, and professors more sought out than priests. The only trouble is, you have to learn the difference between real science and the pretend variety, and the difference isn't always obvious.

There are two kinds of bad science: pseudo-science given in answer to real scientific questions; and real science given in answer to questions that are not scientific at all. Both are damaging, not merely intellectually but also morally, as we can see from two current instances.

There is a real scientific question, as to how we acquire our sexual preferences. By what process does the child come to fix his sexual interests on a particular sex, and on a particular person? Freud explained the matter simply. The child, he said, is already a sexual being. He is fixated from the first on his parents, and, as he grows older, his sexuality is gradually detached from its primal object and transferred to a stranger. The child's sexuality, however, is "polymorphously perverse": it could develop in any direction. Everything depends upon what we do to him.

That is pseudo-science. It purports to explain the emergence of adult sexuality only by redescribing the behaviour of children in terms of it. In all the ways in which true scientific thought displays itself — through careful experiment, through clear hypotheses and the search for their refutation, through the neutral description of both cause and effect — Freudian psychology is manifestly defective. It arrives at its conclusions only by redescribing the evidence in terms of them, and it leans for its authority on nothing more empirical than a dark and mysterious tragedy by Sophocles.

Nevertheless, the "theory" has consequences. Ever since Freud, it has been assumed that children are already sexually responsive, that adults are assiduously trying to "repress" their ebullient desires, and that the final emergence of adolescent erotic feeling is as much a piece of social engineering as a natural result of biology. This farrago of nonsense feeds into the philosophy of "liberation", and gives rise to the dangerous belief that since children are already prey to sexual desire, we must ease their tortured souls by permitting its expression. The effects of this on sex "education" have been devastating.

In so far as children were taught about sex in the past, it was with one predominant end: to safeguard chastity. It was not sex that was taught, but its prevention. The result was that girls hoped for marriage, and boys learnt to respect the answer "no".

Thanks largely to Freud, all that has been inverted. Sex education, as currently practised by experts and advisers, is devoted entirely to teaching children about sex: not how to avoid it, but how to do it. The shameless quality of this "education" stems from the fact that it is devoted to destroying shame, to making children feel "good" about things which fuddy-duddies wish to "repress". The only things that children need to know, according to the experts, are hygiene and the avoidance of more children. The rest is pleasure. And whether you take this pleasure with members of another sex or members of your own is a matter of supreme indifference.

Sex education, so conceived, is really vicarious paedophilia. The adult "adviser", explaining the use of the condom to a class of 14-year-olds with slides and pictures, is in the position for which every paedophile craves — freely arousing the sexual curiosity of the immature, with himself as the centre of attention.

There is another kind of pseudo-science that has come to the fore in the debate over hunting. Michael Foster MP finds no contradiction between his Bill to ban hunting with hounds and his own favourite pastime of angling. This is because "science has proved" that fish don't feel pain or fear or stress as we and foxes do. Moreover, Professor Patrick Bateson's report for the National Trust "proves" that the hunted stag feels stress beyond anything that can be accommodated by its natural equipment. But science proves nothing of the kind. It is a philosophical and not a scientific question whether fish feel pain or fear, or whether the thing which is measured by Professor Bateson is rightly described as "stress". All that science shows is that the nervous systems of fish are differently constructed and that the physiological changes that accompany exertion and fear are exhibited by hunted stags.

> The fish he hooks feel far more pain and fear than any hunted fox

Those results are unsurprising. But absolutely nothing relevant is proved by them. When we attribute pain or fear to another human being it is not because we have first assured ourselves that he has a nervous system exactly like ours. Suppose we discovered that members of a particular tribe were endowed with eccentric neural hardware: would we feel free to injure them? Of course not, for pain is a matter of the software and not the hardware of an organism. It is for us to decide, through observation and sympathy, what an animal feels. And I can tell Mr Foster for a fact, that the fish he hooks feel far more pain and fear than any hunted fox.

In those two examples we see how pretend science leads to a confused morality: in the one case allowing what should be forbidden, in the other case forbidding what should be allowed. And this confusion is what we should expect. For it is not science that delivers the answers to moral questions, but common sense.

Sir Isaiah Berlin belonged to a race of giants that few dons today can equal

Casting a shadow on Oxford's elite

William Rees-Mogg

I was very lucky in my Oxford generation. I was at Balliol in January 1946 to the summer of 1951, with a two-year gap in the middle, when I was doing my National Service in the RAF. My generation included those who had fought in the war and others, like myself, who had come up straight from school. Among my undergraduate contemporaries were Margaret Thatcher, Shirley Williams, Michael Heseltine, Edward Boyle, Tony Benn, Ken Tynan, Tony Richardson, Robin Day and Rupert Murdoch. Tony Crosland was a young don. As Samuel Johnson said of Pembroke College in his day: "Sir, we were a nest of singing birds."

We were lucky in our contemporaries; we were even luckier in the dons who taught us. The most remarkable of them came from a single generation. Maurice Bowra and C.S. Lewis were born in 1898; Gilbert Ryle and Roy Harrod in 1900; David Cecil in 1902; A.L. Rowse in 1903; Thomas Balogh in 1905; A.J.P. Taylor in 1906; Isaiah Berlin in 1909. There are two surviving but younger members of the group; Christopher Hill, who was my history tutor at Balliol, was born in 1912, and Hugh Trevor-Roper in 1914. This list is rather weighted towards historians; no doubt there were other influential figures whom I have omitted, or did not come across while I was an undergraduate. Apart from A. J. P. Taylor, I met all of them, as well as attending lectures or tutorials given by most of them.

I met Isaiah Berlin, who was then still a Fellow of New College, while I was an undergraduate, and remember meeting him next and having a more substantial conversation at Harvard in 1951. He was then doing some sabbatical teaching in the United States. The obituaries and reminiscences since his death have well brought out his liberal and pluralist ideas which, even then, I knew that I both shared and, in part, did not share.

What they have not emphasised is his sense of the tragedy of the human condition. He saw that there are many paths that individuals can choose; he did not believe that these paths could or should all be turned into one great trunk road; he knew that for most people, perhaps in the end for all people, the individual paths lead to disappointment. The melancholy inherent in his view of the world was sweetened by his generous personality, and by his openness to different views; yet he shared the same melancholy that one finds in the works attributed to Solomon in the Bible. His childhood experience of the last years of pre-revolutionary Russia contributed to his feeling of the impermanence of human societies.

This melancholy also showed in his view of Israel. From the early years he had been a committed Zionist. He was much loved, and much admired in Israel. As he grew older, he saw groups with which he had little sympathy gaining power. His values and his hopes had never been those of Likud or the religious parties. He never spoke about this with any bitterness, but his sense that men without wisdom were endangering the future of Israel was evident.

When one is a student one takes for granted the dons will not only want to teach, but also will be interested in one's own ideas, however immature. Only later does one come to feel the gratitude one should have felt from the start. There we were, bright students, being given an extraordinary amount of the time of this remarkably gifted group of men. We treated them like intellectual milch cows. Apart from what they taught us, most of them produced work that is still of great interest: Isaiah Berlin's political study of ideas; Gilbert Ryle's *The Concept of Mind*; Christopher Hill's work on 17th-century history; Hugh Trevor-Roper and A.J.P. Taylor as modern historians and A.L. Rowse's studies of the Elizabethan period are all part of the permanent literature of their subject. Roy Harrod's life of Keynes has been partly superseded, but it's still a splendid account of one economist by another.

David Cecil remains one of the most sensitive of literary biographers; C.S. Lewis still has a large following. Perhaps Tommy Balogh, who went off to advise in Downing Street, now seems a less interesting economist than he did then, but the remarkable omission among those who might have been expected to be remembered for their work is Maurice Bowra? He wrote a large number of books, but is remembered as a teacher rather than as a scholar. As a teacher he was exceptionally dynamic.

What broader lessons did we learn from them? From Berlin a generosity towards other people's ideas, from Cecil a sympathy towards those authors who understood the pain of the quiet life, from Lewis a robust view of the divine, from Taylor the fog from which historic events emerged, from Rowse the romance of the peak periods, from Ryle a certain method of analysing ideas, from Hill that England, too, had been capable of revolution, from Trevor-Roper his lucidity of exposition. We learnt, in short, the ideal of liberal scholarship which was the faith of Oxford in the 1940s. How could we be other than grateful for that?

What did those of us who were lucky enough to know him learn from Maurice Bowra. He was the brigand chieftain of this band. He taught us that the Oxford ideal could be followed with energy, with vigour, with attack. As a scholar, he was surprisingly cautious; as a teacher he never hesitated to take risks. His motto was that of the French cavalry: *"L'audace, l'audace, toujours l'audace."* It did not work too well in 1914 when the French were charging the German machineguns, but it made the Warden's dinner table at Wadham a battlefield of brilliant colours.

We also learnt from their extraordinary kindness, from their patience with the young that lies at the heart of all good teaching; this was a Socratic quality that Berlin kept to the very end. Their kindness of spirit did not inhibit a donnish sharpness of speech. "A fine retentive intellect — like blotting paper," was how Bowra described one of his dearest colleagues. He thought it the worst of sins for anyone to repeat such comments to the victim. These barbs were meant to amuse rather than to wound, though wound they sometimes did.

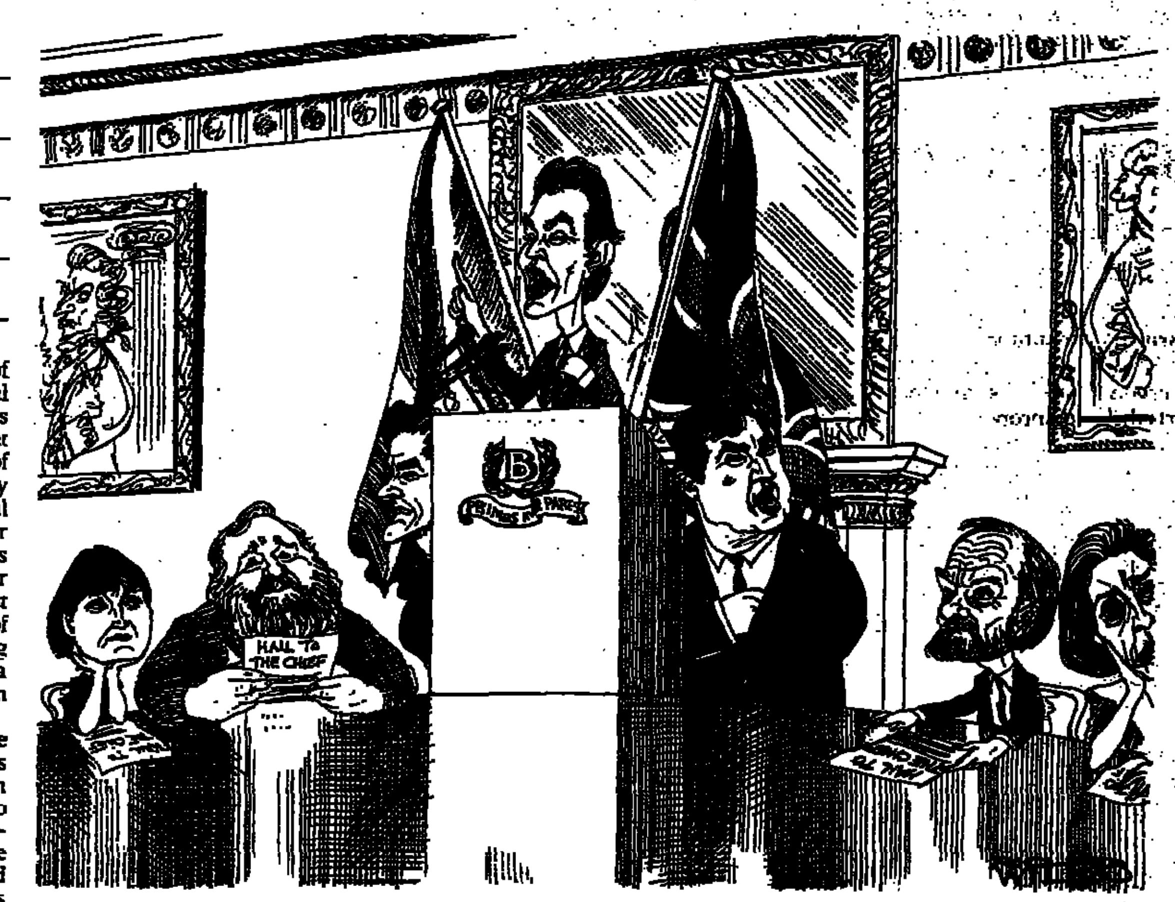
It is easy to look back on one's youth and reflect on the decline of the old institutions. So far as I can judge some institutions seem to have got worse, while others are unquestionably much better than they were 50 years ago. Unfortunately, Oxford University is not one of the latter.

For whatever reasons, which may include early matrimony and low academic salaries, there are now few dons of the calibre of the leading figures of 50 years ago, who themselves seemed at least the equals of the major figures of the 19th century. Sometimes, eminent public men like Sir Robin Butler are still imported to be Heads of Houses, but public eminence was an export trade of the Oxford of the 1940s, and has now become a matter of imports. Diogenes took a lantern to look for a wise man; he would not now be expected to take his lantern with him to Oxford.

These men lived, as Berlin chose to live, in the service of the intellectual world: they were people of high gifts. Those of us who were taught by them remember them as a race of giants. We see few giants in the modern world, and even fewer giants among the Oxford dons.

Cracks in the Cabinet cement

Tony Blair must let his ministers have their say on big issues, says Peter Riddell



The long predicted demise of the Cabinet as a central organ of government has finally occurred. Cabinet Ministers still matter as heads of departments, but their Thursday meetings are no longer of real importance. Most decisions have for a long time been taken by committees or by small ad hoc groups. But, under Tony Blair, the full Cabinet has lost even its residual role as a court of appeal or as a forum for discussing big issues. We have moved from a collective to a centralised system directed by 10 Downing Street.

Sir Robin Butler is in a unique position to observe these changes as Cabinet Secretary for the past ten years and as private secretary to three Prime Ministers. During a pre-retirement interview recently, he remarked how the Cabinet had returned to its 18th-century origins as "a weekly meeting of political friends", discussing issues informally with decisions taken elsewhere. This did not start on May 2: as Sir Robin pointed out, there has been a long process of change.

In the 1940s, the Cabinet ceased being a decision-making body considering most issues. Instead, it would adjudicate issues referred to it from an expanded system of Cabinet committees or by individual ministers. But as the Crossman, Castle and Benn diaries show, the Cabinets of the Wilson and Callaghan era often had lengthy meetings on big questions. The public spending battles of the early Thatcher era also came to the full Cabinet before she purged the "wets".

But over the past decade, the Cabinet has increasingly become a discursive body, as the political scientist Simon James has noted. It has taken fewer decisions. I remember Nigel Lawson telling a seminar at the Institute of Historical Research in 1994 how he "always looked forward to the weekly Cabinet meeting immensely because it was, apart from the summer holidays, the only period of real rest that I got in what was a very heavy job". Nonetheless, John Major held lengthy discussions on awkward topics like Europe so that all had their say and were committed to the final policy.

But Mr Blair has gone further, preferring an informal approach without a set agenda. He asks a minister to introduce a general discussion on the issue of the moment. The court of appeal is now the sofa of his small office rather than the Cabinet table next door. There is even little left of what John Wakeham, the veteran Tory fixer, in 1993 described as the Cabinet's use as "a reporting and reviewing body, rather than a decision-taker". As Peter Mandelson said in a recent lecture, the Cabinet is "not the cook and the Cabinet room is not the kitchen".

The Cabinet minutes may still give more of an impression of order. For instance, on July 17, the Cabinet agreed to proportional representation for the next European elections. In reality, Mr Blair had already decided on the basis of a paper from Jack Straw and Robin Cook. Mr Blair dismissively told his colleagues: "Alastair (Campbell) briefed the press yesterday and Jack (Straw) will be answering a parliamentary question this afternoon."

Virtually none of the Government's major initiatives have been discussed by the full Cabinet. Issues are discussed bilaterally with affected ministers, while inter-departmental disputes are resolved in Cabinet committees. Derry Irvine has become the most politically influential Lord Chancellor this century, both because of his closeness to Mr Blair and because he chairs committees on constitutional matters and future legislation. For instance, Lord Irvine of Lairg chaired 15 meetings of the devolution committee lasting 30 hours to produce the Scottish and Welsh White Papers in July.

But the new regime has been impatient with the traditional structure of Cabinet committees which, Mr Mandelson has said, had "sometimes been allowed to become excessively slow moving and bureaucratic, and a recipe for delays and non-decision as they failed sufficiently to confront powerful departmental vested interests". One result has been an increased use of task forces involving a mixture of civil servants and outsiders on issues crossing departments such as welfare-to-work, standards in schools, youth justice and, now, skill shortages.

But most important of all has been a strengthening of the centre of government with the Cabinet Office and No 10 Policy Unit working more closely. This is supposed to assist what Mr Mandelson has called "proactive initiatives" from the centre. This is a step towards a Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, though Sir Robin has emphasised the distinction between the Cabinet Office driving forward the Government's agenda and becoming a policy player in its own right, which might threaten "its ability to be an honest broker across Whitehall".

In practice, prime ministers never feel as powerful as they are often depicted and they can be checked by determined ministers. Their power has varied not only between different premiers but also during their periods in office. Nonetheless, we have moved towards a more presidential system in the central co-ordination of strategy and presentation.

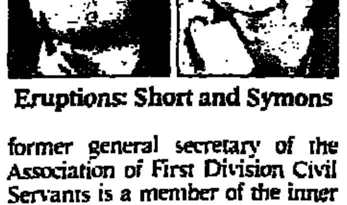
Some of these changes are desirable to give direction to government but they also have risks. The Government's self-inflicted problems over a single currency and tobacco sponsorship might have been avoided if the issues had been properly discussed by more ministers at the right time — and in the latter case, if Tessa Jowell's support for a comprehensive ban, including Formula One, had not been clumsily overruled by Downing Street.

The decline in the Cabinet's collective function also puts a strain on what Lord Wakeham has described as its role as "the cement which binds the Government together". Collective responsibility depends on senior ministers being able to have their say on big issues. Mr Blair can command now. But he will need to involve his Cabinet before long.

THE TIMES DIARY

Short fall

THE VOLCANO on Montserrat continues to cause eruptions in Clare Short's ministerial career. Tony Blair and Robin Cook have downgraded the International Development Secretary's role in HMG's handling of the Caribbean island crisis by putting Baroness Symons in charge instead. The junior Foreign Office minister will for the first time chair today's meeting of the Montserrat Action Group which was set up in August to coordinate relief for the islanders. Mr Cook created the cross-departmental committee after criticism of the Government's shambolic response to the crisis and Ms Short's accusation that Montserratians were seeking "golden elephants" as compensation for their plight.


Eruptions: Short and Symons

The Foreign Secretary insisted at the time that the group's creation was not a snub to the International Development Minister, emphasising that only Whitehall officials would be involved. But the appointment of Mr Cook's political sidekick flies in the face of that assurance.

Today's meeting represents another blow for Ms Short. Despite her best efforts in recent months to tow the party line, fulsomely displayed during last week's *Question Time* on BBC1, she will never be considered as "one of us" by Mr Blair. For Baroness Symons, however, the new job merely reconfirms the Prime Minister's enthusiasm for her talents. The former general secretary of the Association of First Division Civil Servants is a member of the inner circle and the very symbol of a new Labourette: her teenage son plays with Blair's kids at No 10.

Dome payback

THE DAY Conservative, and not a few Labour, MPs have been waiting for has arrived. Peter Mandelson, who has escaped a grilling or worse in the House of Commons ever since he became Minister without Portfolio, will stand in front of the dispatch box for the first time. The prince of spin will answer questions in his capacity as Millennium Dome minister.

Francis Maude, the shadow culture minister, will have the privilege of throwing the first Tory punch. "We're going all out to get him," a second in Maude's corner boasted at the weekend. "We may not want to dump the Dome, but we are more than happy to dump on Mandelson."

Mr Maude and his team are so keen to deliver a knock-out that they have been limbering up for today's clash since the summer recess and drawn up a list of 90 questions. There are also rumours that some Labour MPs who have been slapped down one too many times by Mr Mandelson are awaiting his appearance before them to get their revenge. Unfortunately, only five minutes have been allocated to the bout.

- *News of the little local difficulties confronting London's opera and ballet companies have clearly not reached their colleagues at the Kirov in St Petersburg. The Russian opera and ballet group has arrived in London on a fundraising tour.*

Love notes

AFTER suffering a bump on the head in an accident at the gym, Nesta Wyn Ellis has given up words for notes. The writer, who penned an intimate biography of John Major back in 1991, is composing a musical called *All My Love*, which will be based loosely around her love life.

"It's going to be very romantic," Ms Wyn Ellis enthused. "The identity of my past lovers will remain enigmatic, although people will have a great time trying to work out who they are. Chorus numbers will be about politicians, including the former prime minister. Not that Mr Major was ever one of my lovers." Heaven forbid.

- *Garry Kasparov, the world chess champion, was as grumpy as a bear woken up from its winter slumber after he took on a bunch of amateurs at the Cobden Club in London at the weekend. Playing 24 games simultaneously, he was forced into two rare draws by our own Daniel Johnson and by a group of teenage girls.*

Off air

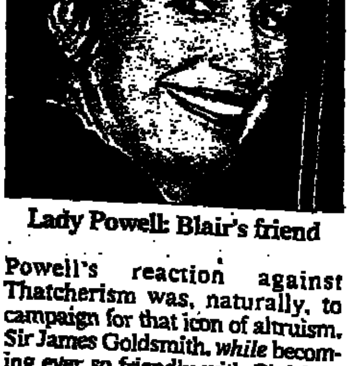
PITY poor auntie. *BBC News 24*, the Beeb's new television news service launched yesterday, was unable to catch the attention of Britain's powerbrokers. Westminster Cable, which caters for all those living and working within a stone's throw of Parliament, is not carrying the channel. While most of the British public would not care two hoots, some of Labour's spinocracy envisage a nightmare scenario; what if rogue elements such as Tony or Ken choose the station to make a point and go undetected?

"Our Formula One sponsorship is down to a packet a year"

Et tu, Carla?

LADY POWELL, the hostess of London's best political salon, will this Thursday do a Brutus. The fiery Carla, who owes everything to Baroness Thatcher's advancement of her husband, Sir Charles, stabs Maggie in the back in the December edition of *Harpers & Queen*.

"Thirty years ago, serving the nation was the aim of Britain's best politicians and government people," according to Lady P, whose husband was Baroness Thatcher's favourite foreign policy guru. "Now it is me-me-me. I blame Margaret Thatcher. Of course she had to make Britain more competitive ... but she went too far in encouraging people to put selfish interests first."


Lady Powell: Blair's friend

During the last election, Lady Powell's reaction against Thatcherism was, naturally, to campaign for that icon of altruism, Sir James Goldsmith, *while* becoming ever so friendly with Blairites, particularly that adorable Mr Mandelson. Apparently new Labour will raise the moral standards of public life: her brother-in-law, Jonathan, is Blair's chief of staff.

In the magazine article, she also has a go at the press. "They don't like what I say, so they present me as a frivolous floozie interested only in parties, or a pushy foreigner trying to pull the strings from behind the scenes." Can't think why.

JASPAR GERARD

A FLAWED SURVEY

CBI claims that business wants to join EMU are wrong

The *Confederation of British Industry* claimed yesterday that three-quarters of British businesses were behind the idea of Britain joining the single currency at the earliest practicable opportunity after 1999. The CBI leadership concluded *from this that* the essential condition for membership set by the Labour Government — that joining would bring "clear and unambiguous" benefits to Britain — would almost certainly be satisfied by the beginning of the next Parliament in 2002. The CBI is simply wrong — on at least four counts.

First, because the true state of opinion among CBI members is by no means as clear as the leadership contends. The statements made yesterday by Sir Colin Marshall, its president, were a distortion of *the CBI's own survey figures. Although* 72 per cent of respondents said that Britain should "plan to join EMU as soon as convergence is in place", the majority of companies failed to express any opinion. Taking account of these companies, *only* 22 per cent of the CBI's total sample of 2441 companies were in favour of membership, 5 per cent were unambiguously opposed and the remaining 73 per cent were silent or undecided. For the CBI leadership to dismiss this huge silent majority as merely apathetic or uninformed is arrogant and unwise. Most British companies are reluctant to take a stand at this stage for good reason: it is impossible to foresee today what the costs and benefits of entry might be in 2002 or later. Accordingly, most pragmatic businessmen are reluctant to make any firm decisions about EMU, especially as none is required.

The second objection to the survey is that even the small minority of businesses which claim to support monetary union are responding to a purely hypothetical ques*tion. The CBI asked whether Britain should* join "once a competitively sustainable exchange rate exists". Many British businessmen *hope that the pound will fall* back to around DM2.60 and would love monetary union to lock in the benefits of such a competitive devaluation. In reality, however, the pound *may* never return to the levels of *1995 and early 1996. If the CBI had* asked a more realistic question about joining EMU at the present exchange rate of DM2.90, the support for EMU membership would doubtless have fallen far below yesterday's paltry 22 per cent.

Thirdly, the CBI would not represent the business community, even if a majority of its members were truly in favour of EMU. The Institute of Directors, which represents entrepreneurial small firms, has repeatdly found majorities opposed to EMU membership. The IoD surveys, like those of the CBI, *find large numbers of businessmen* undecided. The IoD, accordingly, does not rule out EMU as a matter of principle and under all circumstances. But it rightly contends that the underlying presumption about the EMU *project should be negative; the burden* of proof should be upon those who advocate embarking on this unprecedented venture.

Finally, the views of the business community, even if they were clear and united, *would not necessarily be worth heeding.* Experience shows that "business leaders" are no more likely to be right about broad economic and political issues — or even about the immediate prospects for their own markets — than ordinary people. The CBI was wrong about the exchange-rate mechanism in the 1990s, wrong about trade union reform in the 1980s, wrong about incomes policy in the 1970s and wrong about *devaulation in the 1960s. The CBI's view will* therefore be of questionable relevance in 2002 in making the decision on EMU. The CBI should certainly be asked to express an opinion when the time comes. But the *Government would be foolish to treat public* statements from the CBI leadership as a definitive, or even an important, answer.

QUEST FOR QUALITY

Oxbridge college fees remain in peril

On Wednesday the House of Lords will conduct a debate that may proved decisive in *the quest to maintain quality in British* higher education. The Government will decide shortly whether or not it will be erode or eliminate the £35 million that supports the college-based tutorial system at Oxford and Cambridge. At one stage it appeared that this funding would be withdrawn entirely - an act of malice that would have pushed several poorer colleges to the brink of extinction. On that, at least, Tony Blair seems to have blocked the preferences of Baroness Blackstone, the Minister for Higher Education. However, the ideas now canvassed by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) are not much more attractive.

The Council is believed to favour what it considers a "compromise" formula. The college fee would be abolished but Oxford and Cambridge would be able to recoup that money through new grants made available for teaching success, research excellence and "special factor funding." Other universities could compete for such resources. Whatever final sums emerged would be placed not with colleges but the central university. This package seems to be the preference of the Department for Education. Ministers think they can present it as compatible with both the Dearing Report's core principles and the preservation of excellence.

If so, they are mistaken. The proposal would sever the link between this expenditure and the Oxbridge teaching system. It would break up one fund into several components that could be more easily reduced afterwards. There is almost no chance that the two universities would receive the same level of financial support as they do at present. The poorest colleges at Oxbridge — the *institutions that most need outside spending* and, incidentally, tend to recruit more students from the state sector — would suffer disproportionately. It is the least honest and least honourable solution on offer.

The suggestion is simply a switch in strategy. It swaps the sword for the sledgehammer. That such a sleight of hand should emerge from HEFCE is hardly surprising. The body is dominated by those eager to benefit from ending college fees. In this case, the cannibals have been awarded charge of the kitchen. The concept that they have promoted is incompatible with their public desire to avoid damage to the quality of college teaching and research. The net effect would be to weaken two world-class universities. That such a shift might be supported by a Minister for Higher Education is extraordinary. Governments and public policy should not be a forum for grudge and private prejudice.

Only two propositions are compatible with the promotion of excellence in higher education. Either the college fee should be retained or Oxbridge should be allowed to charge top-up tuition fees. There is a compelling case for the latter. It would transfer the costs of college life and tutorial teaching to those who most directly benefit. This *should* be the means to meet the Dearing Report's requirements. If the Government will not permit that financial freedom, then it should keep existing arrangements. The House of Lords must use *its opportunity to reinforce that message.* This time, neither Oxford nor Cambridge can afford to be the home of lost causes.

JAMS TOMORROW

Motoring is no longer fun but the car is here to stay

A new traffic survey on the widened western stretch of the M25 motorway makes depressing, if *hardly surprising, reading. It found* that as soon as the extra lanes were added, cars and lorries poured in, quickly leading to congestion worse than the gridlock that persuaded the Government to widen the *road in the* first place. The survey fulfils the maxim that even the Conservative Government acknowledged: roads attract traffic until the point of saturation; the bigger the road, the more traffic it attracts.

The findings detail the huge waste of time spent in traffic jams. They showed that on a typical day in July, some *477,227* motorists on London's orbital road lost the equivalent of 9,317 days. A national motorway congestion index showed that 1.2 million drivers were caught in motorway hold-ups on an average day. Seizing on the figures, environmentalists gave a warning that in ten years' time road congestion will be at least as bad as the highest Government forecasts.

On the other side of the Atlantic, congestion is also forcing a *radical re-think in one* of the most beautiful spots in America. Yosemite National Park is now so choked with cars and their noxious fumes each summer that the valley floor is little more than a slowly moving car park. Trees and wildlife suffer, the tranquility of nature's *great cathedral* is ruined and visitors, slouched in their cars, make little effort to take any exercise. The Park authorities are therefore considering a ban on private cars, forcing visitors to take buses, or, better still, cycle or hike through the park. Such a *decision has been hastened by the destruc*tion of roads by flooding in January.

In both cases, the car, once worshipped as the symbol of postwar prosperity and individual choice is now regarded as a menace. Driving is no longer fun: the open road is clogged, or, as motorists found last week in France, blockaded by striking truckers. Cars still confer status, dominate industrial economies and are the tedious topic of conversation pubs across the land. But more and more the emphasis is on the less glamourous aspects of motoring: the cost, the pollution and the accident toll. The league table drawn up by a Swedish in*surance company of the safest and the most* dangerous cars is less likely to reassure people about the advances in safety design in the past decade than to worry them that many of the popular models significantly raise the risk of a fatal accident.

Public policy should not swing from *pandering* to the car to excoriating its use on all occasions. Cars are now the backbone of the world's transport systems. They still bring a freedom and convenience unimaginable 50 years ago. But policy must lead a gradual change *in attitude. It must con*centrate on the search for cleaner fuel, the need for regulation, the threat to urban life and the conservation of scarce land. Traffic will not ease by itself; but there must be alternatives to wasting one's life on the M25.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Big business at odds on effects of EMU membership

From Lord Young of Graffham

Sir, Some ten years ago I would spend much of my time in the Lords wearily responding "when the time is right" to never-ending questions about entering the ERM. My questioners, both in the House and outside, were the same coalition that is pressing the Government today to enter into the Euro — the leadership of the CBI and the TUC, the less entrepreneurial multinationals and the Lib Dems.

After I retired, Margaret Thatcher succumbed, *to her everlasting regret*, to pressure from her Chancellor and her Foreign Secretary. We joined the *ERM at a time when our economy* and that of Germany were out of step. Later the terms of our membership *forced us to increase our interest rates*, converting a mild recession into the steepest decline of this century. Far too many of the new companies launched with such high hopes in the Eighties did not survive.

We enjoy the strongest economy in Europe today — and it dates from the day we were forced out of the ERM. Why, when our economy is still out of step with France and Germany and *shows no sign of ever getting closer*, would we wish to join an even more rigid system? Not even George Soros *could save us then.*

Yours,
YOUNG
(Secretary of State for Employment, 1985-87; Trade and Industry, 1987-89),
House of Lords.
November 9.

From Sir Stanley Kalms and others

Sir, Much of the coverage surrounding the current debate about economic and monetary union conveys the impression that British business is united in its support for Britain's early entry into a single currency. This is simply not the case. British businessmen are as divided on the merits of EMU as our politicians are.

Abolishing the pound could pose very serious economic and constitutional risks for this country. We have seen the consequences of entering a fixed-rate exchange system at the wrong level and at the wrong time with the ERM. British businesses paid the price with painfully high interest rates, job losses, falling investment and a slow recovery.

What is at stake is the power of a British *government to pursue an eco*nomic policy which is in the interests of British businesses and their employees. *This is* not an obscure constitutional argument, but of vital interest to every company in the country.

We were able to come out of the ERM; we might never be able to come out of a *single* currency.

While the risks of joining EMU speak for themselves, the case for a *single currency has simply not been* made.

Yours faithfully,
STANLEY KALMS,
Chairman, Dixons Group plc,
JOHN CRAVEN,
Chairman, Lonrho plc,
HANSON,
Chairman, Hanson plc,
JOHN HOSKYNS,
Chairman, The Burton Group plc,
EMMANUEL KAYE,
Chairman, Kaye Enterprises Ltd.
HENRY KESWICK,
Chairman, *Jardine Matheson Holdings,*
RODNEY LEACH,
Director, Kwik Save,
CHRISTOPHER LEWINTON,
Chairman, TI Group,
IAN McALPINE,
Director, Sir Robert McAlpine Ltd.
CHRISTOPHER MILLER,
Chief Executive, Wassall plc,
JOHN NOTT,
Chairman, Hillsdown Holdings plc,
GARRY WESTON,
Chairman, Associated British Foods,
WOLFSON of SUNNINGDALE,
Chairman, Great Universal Stores plc,
Dixons Group plc,
29 Farm Street, W1.
November 8.

From the Director-General of the CBI

Sir, I would like to counter the asser*tions (leading article, November 6; let*ters November 5, 7) that support for UK membership of EMU is confined to a small group of multinationals.

In 1995 and 1996 we and the British Chambers of Commerce commissioned from MORI the most extensive survey of business opinion on EMU so far. Between us we represent the vast bulk of British business, from large to small, and the poll's sample of *1,700 firms covered all sizes, sectors* and regions, with over 70 per cent of respondents being small or medium companies. There were clear majorities for UK membership of EMU under appropriate conditions.

Although it is true, as your leader states, that in 1996 only 28 per cent wanted the UK to commit to join in 1999, a further 63 per cent believed the option of joining in 1999 or later *should be kept open. Only 7 per cent* rejected EMU as an option. Fifty-six per cent supported the principle of EMU, with 30 per cent opposed. We have never claimed that business is unanimous, but any claim that it is not generally in favour does not stand up.

Our formal consultation process has confirmed these results. Between March and July this year we consulted 400 *members of our committees* and councils. Over 90 per cent supported entry in principle at some time (*though with varying opinions* about timing and conditions) and only 3 per cent wished to rule out EMU for the *foreseeable future.*

Yours faithfully,
ADAIR TURNER,
Director-General,
Confederation of British Industry,
Centre Point,
103 New Oxford Street, WC1.
November 7.

From Mr George Guise

Sir. France is a pre-Thatcherian State where the interests of producers, whether they be lorry drivers or govern*ment officials educated at the Ecole Nationale*, override those of international competitiveness and domestic consumers.

Germany is less demotic but still regards trade unionists as an integral part of government. (Did you ever try shopping after 6pm or at weekends?) Italy is an anarchy of warring vested interests where domestic law and international commitment bear little relation to actual practice. (When did you ever see a crash helmet adorn the motor scooterists of the Amalfi coast?)

These are the people to whom the new Tory dissidents would surrender the pound sterling. There should only be a currency union with such nations after they have been Thatcherised and have exorcised their Scargills. Far better to sit back and watch other European currencies collapse as worker power destroys their economies than hand over UK assets, especially pension fund assets, to add to the bonfire. *The alternative is a massive transfer* of British wealth to shore up irresolute governments, as advocated by the proponents of early currency union.

What the Chancellor told us on October 27 is that, with the best will in the world, Britain does not yet have sufficiently high unemployment or taxation to qualify for entry. It is a relief to be told, and to the enormous credit of Blair and Mandelson, that *even five years of a Labour Govern*ment is unlikely to get us there.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE GUISE
(Prime Minister's Policy Unit,
1986-90),
90 Longacre, WC2.
November 5.

Russia's nuclear waste

From Mr J. S. Wills

Sir, On December 16 last year you reported the release from a Russian prison of Captain Aleksandr Nikitin, considered the first post-Communist political prisoner in his country. Captain Nikitin, a former naval officer, had worked with the Norwegian ecological organisation, Bellona, because *of his concern at the unsafe nuclear* waste in the Murmansk area, including nuclear submarines without proper upkeep.

Despite being released, Aleksandr Nikitin is still accused of high treason, and a new charge was brought against him in September this year, based on a secret Defence Ministry decree (Number 56) which neither Nikitin nor his defence counsel has been allowed to see. The decree dates from September 1996, months after his arrest. This attempt by the Rus*sian authorities at retroactive* legislation violates both the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights *and their own Constitution.*

The situation has been worsened by a new law signed by President Yeltsin on October 6, under which all information on nuclear waste is declared to be a state secret. It appears that a Soviet-style policy of suppressing inconvenient information is being imposed. Since nuclear pollution does not respect frontiers, neighbouring countries are rightly concerned.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WILLS,
5 Cedar Court Road, Bath Road,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.
November 7.

Turkish question

From Mr Robert G. Serman

Sir, I recently heard on the radio that Kemal Ataturk is the frontrunner in a poll being run by *Time* magazine on the 100 most influential people of the century.

At a restaurant in Kas in southern *Turkey a couple of weeks ago* we received with our bill a printed slip nominating Ataturk for the award, with the clear expectation that all patrons would sign without question. *If this approach* were widely followed it would have considerable impact on the result.

Given the awe with which Ataturk is regarded, and the fact that no criticism, cartoons, etc, of him are allowed in Turkey, there could even be people afraid to refuse.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT G. SERMAN,
23 Courts Mount Road,
Haslemere, Surrey.
November 1.

Business letters, page 50
Sport letters, page 36

Human Rights Bill

From the Editor of FT Business Law Europe

Sir, The Government's Human Rights Bill (letters, October 31) will mark an enormous stride forward for the legal protection of the individual *in the United Kingdom. But it will not* give the courts the power to ensure that the rule of law is respected by Parliament. This robs it of much of its potential to bring the constitution up to date.

The doctrine of the separation of powers says that the legislative, executive and judicial *arms* of government should be in balance. Yet the UK clings to the thinking of an earlier age *when the judges were perceived mere*ly as the tools of an over-mighty king.

The White Paper bases the Bill on parliamentary sovereignty which

> in this context . . . means that Parliament is competent to make any law on any matter of its own choosing and no court may question the validity of any Act that it passes.

This is quite some power. It makes no allowance for a lapse of parliamentary attention, let alone for a deliberate decision to flout individual liberties. It is not good enough to rely on the good will of the present incumbents. A new law should protect the constitutional order from the possibility of *future* distortion and manipulation.

The Bill is deficient in other ways too. *Individuals affected by legislation* declared to be incompatible with the Convention rights will have no remedy. Law enforcement officers responsible for enforcing the legislation will have to do so even in the knowledge that it harms people. Moreover, ministers will be given power to amend the relevant legislation, so transferring what should be a judicial power not to Parliament but to the executive *arm of government.*

The judiciary should shoulder full responsibility for ensuring that the rule of law is applied in every case, whoever is to blame for the breach. *That* those now holding the office of judge may not wish to do so for fear of conflict with Parliament is no reason to fudge the issue.

Yours faithfully,
CELIA HAMPTON,
Editor,
FT Business Law Europe,
40 Anson Road, N7.
November 7.

Breast screening

From the President of the Royal College of Radiologists

Sir, This college is pleased that the Secretary of State for Health has taken firm action to rescue the quality assurance scheme applied under the breast screening programme (report, November 4). Unfortunately, the ob*jective of ensuring uniformly high* standards may be thwarted by a developing shortage in our specialty.

It takes five years for a *doctor to* train to become a certified specialist in radiology. There are presently 60 unfilled consultant radiology posts in the UK and that number will continue to increase. The danger to the programme is made worse by the movement of consultant radiologists away *from breast screening* into other fields within radiology.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL J. BRINDLE,
President,
The *Royal College* of Radiologists,
38 Portland Place, W1.

Goose and gander?

From Mr W. E. Vaughan

Sir, If, as is alleged, hunting should be banned because of popular demand, should capital punishment be reintro*duced on the same principle?*

Yours faithfully,
W. E. VAUGHAN,
Chobham Farm Cottage,
Philpot Lane, Chobham, Surrey.
November 4.

Anne Boleyn's note

From Professor Eric Ives

Sir, Mr E. P. Wilson (letter, November 3) is clearly right to say it was appropriate for Anne Boleyn to annotate a picture of the Last Judgment with a proverb meaning a day will come that shall pay for all. We can, *nevertheless*, also assume a more personal signifi*cance, as is clearly the case in another* book of hours (King's Library MS 9) where Anne's message of devotion to *Henry VIII was written below a pic*ture of the Annunciation!

The significance of the recently discovered note is, however, likely to be religious rather than romantic. Anne became a convinced evangelical during her adolescence in France. Reformist texts which she owned (eg, Percy MS 465) emphasised that "the judgment of God shall be general and universal where as all things shall be discovered" — in other words, "*le temps viendra*".

The only way to "eschew" this judgment was "by true faith to take Jesu-Christ of our side for pledge", and *Anne's last recorded* words were "to Christ I commend my soul".

Yours sincerely,
E. W. IVES,
University of Birmingham,
Department of *History,*
Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT.
November 3.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.
e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Drops of comfort in a 'food desert'

From the Chairman of Iceland Frozen Foods

Sir, Your report of November 5, headed " 'Food deserts' threaten health of poor and old", rightly draws attention to the need for all sectors of society to have access to a healthy diet. Unfortunately, it may lend credence to the mistaken view that only fresh food can provide a healthy diet — a view which ignores the evidence that the nutrient levels in frozen vegetables, *for example, can be far higher than in* the fresh equivalent.

Of course I have a personal axe to *grind. However, the problem of the* nation's health needs to be tackled on the basis of facts rather than myths rooted *in an age* when produce was grown and sold locally within hours of being harvested. The fact is that today there is no such thing as fresh food unless you grow, catch or shoot it yourself.

I was heartened to note that Miss Tessa Jowell, Minister for Public Health, intends to meet with big retailers to discuss the problems presented by these "food deserts". As Iceland has stores in 770 communities throughout the UK, offers a nationwide home delivery service and has *taken the lead in developing* telephone-ordering for food, I look forward to hearing from her.

Yours sincerely,
MALCOLM WALKER,
Chairman and Chief Executive,
Iceland Frozen Foods,
Second Avenue,
Deeside Industrial Park,
Deeside, Flintshire.
November 6.

From the Reverend John Webster

Sir, The Government's desire to help communities to establish food co-operatives suggests ways in which the churches could open shops in these areas where shops have closed for economic reasons, as a service to the community.

This has already been done by *Downs Free Church in Woodingdean*, a suburb of Brighton, where the church took over the lease of a small greengrocer's shop when the owner could no longer make it a paying concern. Church members man the shop and good quality fresh fruit and vegetables are sold at reasonable prices.

I purchased *my* fruit and vegetables for the week and was very satisfied. Furthermore, I noticed that the major*ity of the customers were elderly* and infirm people — just the people the Government is concerned about.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WEBSTER (Minister,
Stoneham Road Baptist Church),
7 Amherst Crescent,
Hove, East Sussex.
November 5.

Faith and scepticism

From Professor Colin Howson

Sir, I hope that the "philosophical and scientific" arguments that have persuaded Mr Nicholas Beale of the existence of God (letter, November 6) are better than the one he himself presents: that it is difficult to explain the very large numbers of people who *have chosen to* believe *Christian doc*trine other than by the hypothesis that a wandering teacher rose from the *dead two thousand years ago.*

Can't he really think of other explanations? What about human credulity and tolerance *of standards of evidence* that wouldn't even begin to be considered in either science or the courts today?

I might point out that I have yet to see an argument which to my satisfaction renders the existence of God, any god, more likely than not: mostly they're like Mr Beale's.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN HOWSON,
London School of Economics and Political Science,
Department of Philosophy, Logic and Scientific Method,
Houghton Street, WC2.
November 7.

Life force

From Mr M. Bancroft-Richardson

Sir, With regard to death rates (report, October 24; letters, October 29, November 5) *it has always been my* understanding that the death rate for the entire human race is "once".

I do not propose to do it more frequently.

Yours faithfully,
M. BANCROFT-RICHARDSON,
78 Farm Hill North,
Leeds, West Yorkshire.
November 5.

Prayers and pints

From Sir George Engle, QC

Sir, The Reverend M. J. Horsman finds it easier to pray while riding his motor cycle (letter, November 6).

I once, in the course of a sermon, heard the curé of a village in the South of France say, in all seriousness, that there would be fewer road accidents if all drivers fixed an image of St Chris*topher on the dashboard and kept their eyes on it.*

Yours sincerely,
GEORGE ENGLE,
32 Wood Lane, Highgate, N6.
November 6.

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COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 8: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were present this evening at the Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall.
The Prince of Wales, The Duke of York, The Princess Royal, accompanied by Captain Timothy Laurence RN, The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, The Duke of Kent, and Princess Alexandra, accompanied by the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy, were also present.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
November 8: The Duchess of Kent, Patron, the Royal Hospitals, this evening attended a Reception for staff of the Royal Victoria Hospital at Hillsborough Castle.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 9: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh laid Wreaths at the Cenotaph this morning on the occasion of Remembrance Day.
Wreaths were also laid by The Prince of Wales, The Duke of York and The Duke of Kent.
The Prince Edward, The Princess Royal, accompanied by Captain Timothy Laurence RN, The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester and Princess Alexandra, accompanied by the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy, were present during the Ceremony.
The Duke of York afterwards took the Salute at the March Past of Ex-Servicemen on Horse Guards Parade, London SW1.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
November 9: The Duke of York arrived at Newcastle International Airport this afternoon and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Tyne and Wear (Colonel Sir Ralph Carr-Ellison).
His Royal Highness later embarked in *HMY Britannia* at Newcastle upon Tyne.
The Duke of York this evening attended a Reception given by the White Ensign Association and a presentation by the Royal Navy Presentation Team in the Royal Yacht, Newcastle upon Tyne.

CLARENCE HOUSE
November 9: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was present this morning during the Ceremony at the Cenotaph on the occasion of Remembrance Day.
Mrs Michael Gordon-Lennox was in attendance.
A wreath was laid on behalf of Her Majesty by Major Charles MacEwan.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
November 9: The Prince of Wales, Colonel, Welsh Guards, this afternoon attended the Welsh Guards Remembrance Sunday Service at the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, London SW1.
His Royal Highness this evening attended the Kirov Opera Gala *Boris Godunov* at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, London WC2.

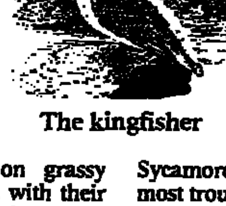
YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
November 9: The Duchess of Kent this morning laid a wreath at the Cenotaph, Belfast, on the occasion of Remembrance Day.

Mr Peter Roberts

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Peter Roberts, Managing Editor, *The Times*, 1990-96, and Managing Editor, *The Sunday Times*, 1978-90, will be held at St Bride's, Fleet Street, at noon on Tuesday, November 11.

Nature notes

Kingfishers watching out for fish are more conspicuous as the leaves fall from waterside bushes: in summer they often use a perch hidden in thick foliage, provided there is a clear drop to the water. They are looking very brilliant, with their electric-blue back and rich orange breast. Snipe can sometimes be seen sleeping in the daytime on grassy banks in marshes, with their long beak tucked into their mantle. A few very late swifts were reported at the weekend: most swifts flew back to southern African three months ago. Leaves have been showering down from the trees, and most of those left are shades of yellow or ochre. The few leaves still hanging on lime trees look like lanterns when the low sun shines through them. Large plane tree leaves are blowing down city streets and blocking drains. Sycamore leaves cause the most trouble on railway lines. Wild plants that go on flowering despite the weather are the yellow Oxford ragwort and white dead-nettle. DJM



The kingfisher

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of York will open the Mini Science Park at Helena Laboratories, Wessington Way, Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, at 10.20; will open the "Stadium of Light", the new football ground of Sunderland Association Football Club, Sunderland, at 11.35; will visit Darlington Technical College, Darlington, Co Durham, at 2.20; will give a reception in *HMY Britannia*, Newcastle quayside, Tyne and Wear, at 6.30; and will attend a dinner given by the Lord Mayor of Newcastle at the Mansion House, at 8.30.

The Princess Royal will open a new court building, Kingston Crown Court, Kingston, Surrey, at 2.00; as president, RedR — Engineers for Disaster Relief, will attend an annual meeting, Institution of Civil Engineers, Great George Street, London, SW1, at 4.50; and as patron, Association of Combined Youth Clubs, will attend an annual meeting at the Abbey Community Centre, 34 Great Smith Street, London, SW1, at 8.15.

The Duke of Kent, president, will attend the Life After Stroke Award ceremony at the Hotel Inter-Continental, Hamilton Place, at 12.10.

Princess Alexandra, as patron, will attend a reception at St James's Palace, at 6.30, to mark the 140th anniversary of Action for Blind People.

Forces appointments

Royal Navy & Royal Marines

Captain: P W Herington — PJHQ in rank of Cdre 24.4.98.

Local colonel: R M Bowkett — 42 CDO RM as CO 28.4.98.

Local lieutenant colonel: R M Rundle — NS Oberammergau 29.6.98.

Commander: S J Branch-Evans — MOD London in rank of A/Capt 1.5.98; T A Cunningham — MOD London 21.4.98; I K Goddard — ACE Srgn Italy 6.3.98; R R D'E Head — Staff of 2SL/CNH FOTR 20.3.98; R E Hodson — Loan Oman 6.2.98; I M Jess — DGSS Bristol 5.12.97; P C Keefe — MOD London 1.5.98; J A Morse — Iron Duke in Cmd 31.3.98; D L Potts — PJHQ 17.3.98; T J Stoneman — JSCSC 5.5.98.

Surgeon commander: J K Campbell — Invincible 9.2.98; G H Evans — RNDHU Derriford 2.4.98; A J Walker — Illustrious 5.5.98.

Major: P A Whittaker — HQRM 2.12.97.

Chaplain: T M Burns — Staff of 2SL/CNH 29.5.98; S P Springett — Raleigh 27.4.98.

Retirements

Commander: C J Clay — 30.1.98; R E D House — 22.1.98; M W Mizen — 16.1.98.

The Army

Major general: M J Strudwick CBE ADC (late Royal Scots) to GOC Scotland, 1.12.97.

Royal Air Force

Group captain: F L Turner — HQSTC, 3.11.97; D R E Evans — JACIG Henlow 14.11.97.

Wing commander: T R Kirkin — MOD, 24.3.97; L Fox — MOD, 1.9.97; D Strickland — MOD London, 1.9.97; G A Williams — HQSTC, 1.9.97; S J Court — HQPTC, 6.10.97; S Blackburn — HQBF Cyprus, 23.10.97; D C Coombes — RAF Lossiemouth, 27.10.97; A Spearpoint — RAF Innsworth, 27.10.97; C J Coulls — RAF Bruggen, 1.11.97; C M H Hawes — MOD London, 3.11.97.

Retirement

Air commodore: J E Rooum, 11.11.97.

MARTIN BEDDALL

Christine Bridge, left, who runs a gallery selling antique glass at Barnes, Southwest London, and Gioya Steinke, who at 77 has become Britain's leading expert on how to help those who cannot see to appreciate works of art. During this month's national dealers' fair at Olympia in London Mrs Bridge will be one of eight dealers offering

Blind get a feel for art

"touch tours" when blind and partially sighted people will be allowed to pick up and feel antiques (Ian Murray writes). Mrs Steinke, from Richmond, Surrey, who was almost blinded in a bomb blast when she was 19, said: "You can sense craftsmanship through your hands, as though you are in direct contact with the person who made something." The tours are available free for the blind and their carers at the fair on November 20 and 21 from 2.30 to 4.30. For tickets, telephone 0171 600 1392.

Viscount Tonypandy

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Viscount Tonypandy, former Speaker, was held on Saturday in Llandaff Cathedral. The Very Rev J. Rogers, Dean of Llandaff, officiated, assisted by the Rev John B. Taylor, President of the Methodist Conference, and the Most Rev John Ward, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Cardiff, who led the prayers.

Mr Neville Shulman, Vice-President of NCH Action for Children, and Captain Norman Lloyd-Edwards, Lord-Lieutenant of South Glamorgan, read the lessons.

Lord Parry gave an address. The Bishop of Llandaff pronounced the blessing.

The Lord Mayor of Cardiff, the Deputy Lord Mayor and Deputy Lady Mayoress of Swansea County Council, the Mayor and Mayoress of Newport, the Mayor and Mayoress of Neath and Port Talbot, the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Caerphilly, the Mayor and Mayoress of Merthyr Tydfil, the Mayor and Mayoress of Rhondda Cynon Taff, the Mayor and Mayoress of Pontypridd, other civic dignitaries, the Secretary of State for Wales, Members of both Houses of Parliament and many other friends were among those present.

Professor J.Z. Young

A memorial service for Professor John Zachary Young, FRS, former Professor of Anatomy, University College London, was held yesterday in the Chapel of Magdalen College, Oxford. The Rev Dr Michael Piret, Dean of Divinity, officiated.

Mr Simon Zachary Young, son, Professor A.R. Lieberman, Dean of the Medical School, University College, London, and Dr J.B. Messenger, Sheffield University, paid tribute. Emeritus Professor Richard L. Gregory, FRS, Bristol University, gave an address.

Service dinners

The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry

Colonel M.A.C.P. Kaye presided at the annual dinner of the 4th Battalion The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry (TA) held on Saturday at Minden House, Pontefract.

The Queen's Royal Hussars

Major-General R.E Barron, Colonel of The Queen's Royal Hussars (The Queen's Own and Royal Irish), presided at the annual Midlands dinner of the Regimental Association held on Saturday at the Forte Post House Hotel, Birmingham.

United Services Mess

The Lord-Lieutenant of South Glamorgan, Mess President, and the Lord Mayor of Cardiff attended the annual dinner of the United Services Mess held on Saturday at the Angel Hotel, Cardiff. Mr A.C. Lewis, Mess chairman, presided. Mr M.J. Phillips also spoke. Rear-Admiral T.W. Loughran was the principal guest.

Lieutenancy of South Yorkshire

On November 10, 1997, her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for the County of South Yorkshire commissioned the following to be Deputy Lieutenants:
Lord Hardy of Wath, Mr Christopher John Jewitt, the Right Hon Lord Walker of Doncaster, PC.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Martin Luther, Protestant reformer, Eisleben, Germany 1483; King George II, reigned 1727-60, Herrenhausen, Germany, 1683; William Hogarth, painter and engraver, London, 1697; Sir Jacob Epstein, sculptor, New York, 1880; Richard Burton, actor, Pontrhydfen, 1925.

DEATHS: Catherine II, the Great, Empress of Russia 1762-96, St Petersburg, 1796; Arthur Rimbaud, poet, Marseilles, 1891; Kemal Ataturk, founder and 1st President of Turkey (1923-38), 1938; Leonid Brezhnev, President of the Soviet Union 1977-82, Moscow, 1982; Sir Gordon Richards, jockey, Kintbury, Berkshire, 1986.

The United States Marine Corps was founded, 1775.

Henry Morton Stanley met Dr Livingstone at Ujiji, Tanganyika (Tanzania), 1871.

Bablake School, Coventry

The School and Former Pupils' Association are celebrating the Golden Anniversary of the opening of the Former Pupils' Fleet Street premises in Coventry (1948-1998). We would like to re-establish contact with as many former pupils as possible, particularly those who attended between 1975 and 1990. Please write to Dr S. Nuttall, Headmaster, Bablake School, Coundon Road, Coventry, CV1 4AU, who will be pleased to send details of the events planned throughout 1998.

Birthdays today

Sir Peter Baldwin, civil servant, 75; Mr Robert Carrier, cookery writer and broadcaster, 74; Dame Frances Coulshed, former director, WRAC, 93; Mr Roger Farrance, former chief executive, Electricity Association, 64; Mr David Flood, organist, Canterbury Cathedral, 42; Mr Michael Hinton, former Sheriff of the City of London, 63; Mr J. Lawrence, governor, Dartmoor prison, 47; Sir Giles Loder, a vice-president, Royal Horticultural Society, 83; the Right Rev Lawrence Luscombe, former Bishop of Brechin and Primus of the Episcopal Church in Scotland, 73; the Earl of Radnor, 70; Sir Tim Rice, lyricist and broadcaster, 53; Professor Elizabeth Robson, geneticist, 69; Viscount Runciman of Doxford, FBA, 63; Sir William Ryrie, civil servant, 69; Mr Roy Scheider, actor, 62; Mr Madron Seligman, former MEP, 79; Sir David Serpell, civil servant, 86; Sir Alfred Sherman, co-founder, Centre for Policy Studies, 78; Mrs Ann Spokes Symonds, patron, Age Concern England, 72; Lady Toulson, 49.

Memorial services

Admiral of the Fleet Sir William Staveley

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life and work of Admiral of the Fleet Sir William Staveley, GCB, will be held in the Church of St Martin-in-the-Fields at 3pm on Monday, January 12, 1998. Dress for the occasion will be Day Dress (Non Ceremonial) or a Dark Lounge Suit. Those wishing to attend are invited to apply for tickets no later than Wednesday, November 26, 1997, enclosing a stamped self addressed envelope to: Ministry of Defence, Naval Personnel Secretariat 2b3, Room 222, Victory Building, HM Naval Base, Portsmouth, PO1 3LS. Tickets will be dispatched on Monday, December 22, 1997.

Dr William Cole

The memorial service for Dr William Cole, LVO, will be held in Southwark Cathedral on Wednesday, November 12, at 11am.

Captain David Keith

A service of thanksgiving will be held on Monday, November 17, 1997, at 11.30am at St Mary's Church, Little Walsingham, Norfolk. Please telephone 01328 862298/862470 for arrangements.

Mr Andrew Harding

A service to dedicate a window in thanksgiving for the life of Andrew Harding will take place at Baverstock Church at 11am on Sunday, November 30, 1997.

University news

Cambridge

St John's College

Elected to a Professorial Fellowship: Ann-Louise Kinmonth, Professor of General Practice, Clinical School.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R.A.K. Goddard and Miss S.K. Colquhoun

The engagement is announced between Richard, youngest son of Mr Keith Goddard, QC, of Bramhall, Cheshire, and Mrs Susan Goddard, of Wilmslow, Cheshire, and Sara, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Roy Colquhoun, of Aberdeen.

Mr C.J. Hattam and Miss J.M. Bagot

The engagement is announced between Christopher, elder son of Mr L.B. Hattam, of Weybridge, Surrey, and Mrs L.M. Hattam, of Thruxton, Hampshire, and Jessica, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs C.H. Bagot, of Levens Hall, Kendal, Cumbria.

Sir James Pickthorn, Bt, and Miss C.L. Craig-McFeely

The engagement is announced between James, son of the late Sir Charles Pickthorn, Bt, and of Lady Pickthorn, of Nunney, Somerset, and Clare, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Craig-McFeely, of Sevenoaks.

Mr M. Somen and Miss Y. Moradi

The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Somen, of Nairobi, and Yassaman, daughter of Mrs Bahyieh Shamouil, of New York.

Mr A.P. Robson and Miss M. Ohta

The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Brigadier and Mrs H.P.M. Robson, of Salisbury, Wiltshire, and Makiko, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. Ohta, of Yokohama, Japan.

Marriages

Mr P.A. King and Ms B.J. Robberds

The marriage took place in Solihull, on November 8, between Mr Philip Anthony King and Ms Beverley Jean Robberds. The honeymoon is being spent in Paris.

Mr T.G. Shillington and Miss P.M. Kennedy

The marriage took place on Friday, November 7, 1997, at St Luke's Church, Sydney Street, SW3, between Mr Tommy Shillington and Miss Polly Kennedy. The Rev Christopher Kevill-Davies officiated, assisted by Dom Edward Corbould.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Sophie, Connie and Dominic Sutton, Tom and Edward Harrop and Miss Clare Shillington. Mr Richard Wates was best man.

A reception was held at The Hyde Park Hotel.

Sternberg Centre for Judaism

The Ambassador of Israel was presented with the Interfaith Gold Medallion by the Indian High Commissioner yesterday. Sir Sigmund Sternberg presided.

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BIRTHS

AINSCOUGH - On November 6th 1997 to Alex (née Dick) and Paul a son James Oswald.

COOKSON - On November 4th 1997, to Serena (née Singer) and Peter, a beautiful son, Rupert James Henry. With thanks to all at Stoke Mandeville Hospital.

DAVIES JONES On October 31st to Victoria (née Candlin) and Mark a daughter Sophie Rachel.

FISHER - On October 28th 1997 to Paul and Kate (née Lees) a beautiful daughter Constance Mary Anne.

FORDHAM - on November 7th to Sally and Christopher a son, a brother to Lucca and Carella.

GORDON - On Wednesday 22nd October, to James and Gill (née McCartney), a son, Hamish John Drummond.

GORDON - On November 6th, to Penelope and Campbell, a son, Edward Peregrine Lysander.

HANCOCK - On 3rd November 1997 at St Richard's Hospital, Chichester, to Jennifer (née Rawes) and Richard, a son, Montague Ronald.

HUGHES - To Amorelle (née Hindley) and Gerard, on November 4th, a son, Oscar Arthur Rochfort, a 9lbs 8oz brother for Oonagh.

KNIGHT - on November 7th at the Princess of Wales Hospital to Lalley (née Usher-Smith) and Charles, a daughter, Ophelia Lalley.

STREATFEILD - On November 4th in Winchester to Penny (née Milton) and Robert a daughter Matilda Annie

DEATHS

BLANTHORNE - On November 5th, 1997, peacefully after a short illness, Christine Elisabeth Barnett, adored sister of Rosemary, dear sister-in-law of Brian and dearest aunt of Lucinda. Funeral Service to take place at St James' Church, Birkdale, Southport, on Friday, November 14th at 1.15 pm. Family flowers only but donations, if so desired, for Sunshine House, R.N.I.B. School. All enquiries please, to Moisters, 25A Sefton Street, Southport, Merseyside. Tel: (01704) 501501.

BROWNE - Claude Henry on November 5th at home aged 92. Dear father of Linda and Tessa and much loved by all his family.

BRYARS - On November 5th 1997, David Bryars aged 64 years of Great Glen, Leicestershire. Dearly loved husband of Silvia and dear father of Robert, Andrew and Victoria. Private funeral service on Tuesday, 11th November 1997. A Memorial Service will be held at St Cuthbert's Church, Great Glen, Leicestershire on Thursday, 13th November at 12.00 Noon. Flowers or donations if preferred for the British Heart Foundation (to whom cheques should be payable) to Ginns and Gutteridge Funeral Directors of Leicester. Tel: 0116 261 6117.

DEATHS

CRICKMAY - Kathleen Iris. Formerly of Wellesbourne School, Acocks Green, Birmingham. Passed away on November 5th in her 93rd year. Funeral at St Alphege Church, Solihull on Friday November 14th at 12 noon. Donations for Birmingham Dogs Home c/o Thomas Bragg & Sons, 562 Stratford Road, Shirley, Solihull, B90 4AY.

HALL - On 7th November 1997 at home in Hertfordshire after a cruel illness borne with courage, cheerfulness and Christian faith, Delia Mary (Lady Hall), adored wife of Sir John B Hall BT. Dearly loved mother of Caroline, David and Julia, grandmother of Katerina, daughter in law of Nancie Lady Hall and mother in law of Martin Dixon-Ward. The funeral, to which all her friends are invited, will be held at St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford on Monday 17th November 2:30 pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired may be sent to the Isabel Hospice, Welwyn Garden City, via Daniel Robinson and Sons Ltd, Funeral Directors, 79/81 South Street, Bishop's Stortford, Herts CM23 3AL. Tel: 01279 655477.

JARVIS - Frank Anthony (Tony) Jarvis MC, peacefully in his sleep on 31st October aged 84. Much loved father of Ann and Frank and grandfather of Mary, Emma and Joanna and great-grandfather of Harry, Jessica, Oliver and India. Cremation Private. A Celebration of his life will be held on Friday 28th November at St Nicholas' Church, Harpenden at 3 pm. Donations, if desired, to Action on Addiction, 68 South Lambeth Road, London SW8 1RL.

OAKLEY - On November 6th, peacefully at home, Velma, aged 87. A much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral enquiries and flowers or donations, if wished, payable to Rye Health and Care Ltd. c/o J. Perigoe & Son, The Duke, Beckley, nr. Rye, E. Sussex TN31 6RR, tel: (01797) 260316.

SELLARS - James. On November 6th 1997 peacefully in a nursing home in Bowdon, Cheshire aged 99 years. Details of the funeral arrangements may be obtained from Kenneth Dewey & Son's (Funeral Directors) Altrincham. Telephone: 0161 980 7010.

WILLIAMSON-NOBLE - In loving memory of Guy Williamson-Noble who died this Thursday afternoon, 6th November. From his own family. Flowers and enquiries to Neville of Ampthill (01525 406132).

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPLANE (or Dindis), Nicholas born 27th May, 1949 at Queen Charlottes Hospital, son of Patricia Frances (Splane) Dindis and Marcel Joseph Constantine Dindis, or anyone knowing his whereabouts please contact Dr Christopher Walker on 01276 21637.

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OBITUARIES

BARONESS LLEWELYN-DAVIES OF HASTOE

Baroness Llewelyn-Davies, PC, Captain of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms, 1974-79, and Opposition Chief Whip in the House of Lords, 1973-74 and 1979-82, died on November 6 aged 82. She was born on July 16, 1915.

Patricia Llewelyn-Davies was not the first Labour woman politician to be appointed a whip: she was preceded by Harriet Slater in the Commons and Norah Phillips in the House of Lords. But she certainly blazed a trail — which has not since been followed — by being the first woman actually to run a Whips' Office in either House of Parliament.

She came to her job in the Lords (by election among her predominantly male colleagues) while Labour was still in Opposition — which no doubt eased her way to the improbable title of Captain of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms when Harold Wilson formed his minority Government in March 1974.

She disdained the elaborate uniform that goes with the post, and instead, having consulted with the Queen, contented herself with a badge specially devised by Garrard's which she wore on her dress. On formal occasions, however, she exercised her right to salute — rather than curtsey to — the monarch.

For Llewelyn-Davies, her role on such high days as the State Opening of Parliament was the apotheosis of what until then had been a slightly frustrating political career. Three times a parliamentary candidate in the 1950s, she had failed to win a seat (though in 1955 she came close, being defeated at Central Wandsworth by only 1,093 votes). She had also been an extremely energetic honorary secretary of the Labour Parliamentary Association — an organisation that belied its name by existing almost solely for the benefit of candidates who had failed to get into Parliament.

In addition, as well as being chairman of the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children from 1967 to 1969, she had for nine years run the African Educational Trust, a charitable body specifically designed to pick winners in the emerging postcolonial Africa (her proudest piece of talent-spotting was probably Robert Mugabe).

But by 1966 she found herself — as Richard Crossman noted in his *Diaries* — thoroughly depressed. She felt she had missed the boat in politics, despite an early start as secretary for 12 years to the Nobel prize-winning Labour frontbencher Philip Noel-Baker, with whom she formed a lifelong bond. She did not lack personal admirers in Wilson's Labour Cabinet either, being especially close to both Crossman and Anthony Greenwood (who otherwise shared few tastes in common). It was thanks to Crossman that she secured her life peerage in 1967, and she was to cause some surprise in 1977, as Government Chief Whip, by nominating her longstanding intimate friend Tony Greenwood (whose interests until then had been principally in the Commonwealth) to be chairman of the Lords Select Committee on Europe.

An outstandingly attractive woman, Patricia Parry, as she was born in Bala, North Wales, was educated at Liverpool College in Huyton and then at Girton College, Cambridge, of which she became an honorary fellow in 1979. At Cambridge, where she led a full student life — not least in bowling some formidable googlies for the women's cricket XI of her college — she made the acquaintance not only of Victor Rothschild and his subsequent wife Tessa Mayor, but of Anthony Blunt, who was later exposed as "the fourth man".

She had married the distinguished architect and academic Richard Llewelyn-Davies in 1943, and theirs was a happy if slightly improbable partnership. According to her own evidence, as related by Crossman, her husband "hated the politicians with whom she consorted", so there was an irony in the fact that it was he who was first elevated to the House of Lords by Wilson as Leader of the Opposition in 1963. This, as Crossman recognised, made it doubly difficult to persuade Wilson to put her there as well, but in 1967 he brought it off, and Richard and Pat Llewelyn Davies became the second husband-and-wife team ever to sit in the Upper House (they had been preceded on the Tory benches by Henry and Barbara Brooke).

In 1969 Pat followed Norah Phillips, the widow of the former Labour Party general secretary Morgan Phillips, into the Government Whips' Office, and it soon became clear that with her sex appeal and charm she had found her métier. Elderly Labour peers — whether in Government or Opposition — positively relished being shepherded by her into the appropriate lobby, and when Frank Beswick retired as Chief Whip in 1973 she, as his deputy, easily overcame two male rivals to attain a post that is salaried even in Opposition.

It was probably just as well that things happened as they did. Had she not already been in place when the Heath Government fell in March 1974, it is doubtful if a Prime Minister with such conservative instincts as Wilson would have risked putting a woman into a position that had always previously been a male preserve. She was sworn of the Privy Council in 1975.

In her youth Llewelyn-Davies had been a passionate Bevanite, but her views tended to move towards the centre as she grew older. On social issues, however, she retained her radicalism to the end, being always ready to champion the cause of abortion and, indeed, of euthanasia. She suffered from ME for a number of years, and it was the onset of this condition that caused her to resign as Opposition Chief Whip in 1982, the year after her husband died. She is survived by her three daughters.

PAUL RICARD

Paul Ricard, the French alcoholic drinks manufacturer, died on November 6 aged 88. He was born in Marseilles on July 9, 1909.

A LEGEND in France, Paul Ricard was a pioneering philanthropist and flamboyant showman who, starting from humble origins in Marseilles, made a huge fortune from the fabrication of pastis, the pale anise spirit which plays so large a part in the way of life of Provence and the rest of the Midi. One brand of pastis bore his own name; then, in 1974, his firm linked up with its chief rival, Pernod, to form Europe's largest alcoholic spirits group outside Scotland. Besides pastis, it produced cognacs, rums, calvados and much else.

Ricard had the self-dramatising panache of the Marseillais to an extreme degree. He made epic publicity gestures, as when he took his entire staff of 1,500 to Rome to be blessed by the Pope (though he was not himself a churchgoing Catholic). He also cultivated a Maecenas role, staging arts festivals where he might turn up in a red cloak and recite his own poems to the gathered celebrities. In addition to the drinks firm, he built up a well-known motor-racing circuit, a game reserve and offshore islands devoted to sailing and the arts. Of the many self-made whizz-kid tycoons in the France of his day, Ricard was certainly the most astonishing.

As a young man he at first showed little desire to go into his father's wine-selling business in Marseilles. His passion was painting, and he attended the city's Ecole des Beaux-Arts. Then, at 19, he met by chance an old Provençal peasant who taught him the secret of how to brew pastis. Since 1915 this drink had been banned in France because of its affinities to absinthe, but Marseille was the centre of a brisk illicit trade. Knowing that the ban might soon be lifted — as it was in 1932 — Ricard prepared for open production. He discovered in himself a flair for business and his sales soared all over France. His slogan was "*un peu de soleil en bouteille*".

As his firm expanded, Ricard also pioneered with what he called "popular capitalism", distributing nearly 40 per cent of its capital to his staff, of all ranks. The shares swelled in value, making even modest employees eventually quite rich. This kind of profit-sharing was unheard of in France in those days, and it earned Ricard the dislike of more orthodox employers.

In 1940 the bottles were drained of their sunlight, for Vichy reimposed the pastis ban. Richard responded by switching his staff to other tasks, such as rice-growing on estates he acquired in the Camargue. After the war, in the teeth of the powerful anti-alcohol lobbies, he campaigned to have the ban lifted, and in 1949 he succeeded. In deference to the lobbies, however, the Government made sure that all publicity for pastis remained illegal. So Ricard used indirect methods to publicise his brand-name again.

He invented a flashy public relations style then unknown in France, staging showman stunts designed to provoke a stream of articles and photos. As well as the outing to Rome, he rode fleets of camels down the Champs Elysées to deliver his supplies; and he invited Spain's top matadors to his Camargue *corridas*, where he had himself photographed galloping at the head of a herd of wild white horses — a cross between El Cid and Buffalo Bill. He often expostulated against the "idiocy" of treating pastis as harmful, saying "It's good for you, doctors have proved it". When one doctor branded him on television as "public enemy number one", Ricard sued — but he did not win.

In 1968 he abruptly resigned from the daily running of his firm, claiming that the State's "bureaucratic dictatorship" was crippling free enterprise and blocking his progress. He handed over to his elder son, Bernard, but remained honorary chairman. The Bisquit cognac firm was acquired, along with many others; *pastis* sales reached 50 million bottles a year; then the merger with Pernod brought further prosperity.

Ricard spent many years developing tourist ventures in Provence. In the Camargue he built a safari park with sideshows. On the island of Embiez he built a large yachting port, and a marine laboratory run by the explorer Alain Bombard. His motor-racing circuit at Le Castellet is still one of the best in France.

Above all, seeing himself as a latter-day Maecenas, he bought the tiny island of Bendor, near Bandol, and turned it into a bizarre kind of cultural centre, with a wine museum and free art classes. Visitors were given lavish monographs ("This Isle of Philosophy where Ancient Greece lives again, where Paul Ricard rekindles the festival flame . . . poets, troubadours gather here . . .") and were treated to a hagiographic 50-minute film on The Dreamer's Life. They could be forgiven for thinking that Monaco was not the only sovereign principality on this coast.

And yet, behind all the hype and absurdity, Ricard was a truly generous man with the common touch, able to make even junior staff feel that their jobs were important. He built excellent housing for his staff; he took them on Sunday picnics or foreign sprees; and he bought gracious châteaux and ski-stations where "my big happy family" (as he called them) could spend weekends and holidays "*dans une ambience ricardienne*".

His firm was a tight-knit community, almost a secret sect. Some critics accused him of Japanese or American "organisation man" brainwashing; other employers called him a dangerous crypto-leftist nut, while the unions saw him as a crypto-fascist nut. Certainly he was autocratic: but his staff loved him. No union set up in the firm. And it never suffered a strike — not even in May 1968.

In his later years Ricard lived high above the village of Signes (of which he was mayor) in a house that he filled with his own paintings, some of them quite good. For all his wealth, he cared little for luxury, and even as a tycoon he lived a bit like a nomad, dossing down anywhere for the night. When he was not showing off in public, his private persona was somewhat severe and taciturn, and close friends spoke of him as a restless, melancholy loner.

Ricard is survived by the five children of his one marriage, which ended in divorce.

MAJOR-GENERAL DESMOND GORDON

Major-General Desmond Gordon, CB, CBE, DSO, died on November 4 aged 85. He was born on Christmas Day, 1911.

DESMOND GORDON was not just an eminent soldier whose career in worldly terms never quite fulfilled its early promise. In retirement he also became a highly effective Commissioner-in-Chief of the St John Ambulance Brigade, an organisation that he did a great deal to bring up to date.

Desmond Spencer Gordon was born near Pinner in Middlesex, the son of a stockbroker who in 1915 volunteered to join Kitchener's Army in France. The four-year-old boy said goodbye to his father at the railway station, and that was the last time he saw him. Later his mother married Lieutenant-Colonel Dick Forbes of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

The young Gordon was educated at Haileybury, though he would have been the first to admit that he enjoyed no outstanding success at school. After Haileybury he went to the Royal Military College Sandhurst, and was commissioned into the Green Howards in January 1932.

After a year at Aldershot, he was sent to join the 2nd Battalion in India, where he travelled widely and developed what were to be lifelong passions for riding and fishing. He served on the North-West Frontier during 1937 and 1938, before returning home to become Adjutant of the regimental depot at Richmond.

In April 1940 he left the depot for the Norwegian campaign. This gave him his first taste of action in a European theatre, and its failure left a deep impression.

In April 1941 he sailed for the Middle East, and towards the end of 1941 he left the Green Howards to become the Brigade Major of 69 Infantry Brigade. After a short spell in Syria, he moved back to the Western Desert and took part in the Gazala battles.

When the campaign in North Africa ended he and the 1st/7th Queens Battalion, which he was by then commanding, took a leading part in establishing the bridgehead at Salerno. They found the fighting there very different from the Western Desert.

Shortly after the crossing of the River Volterna, the 1st/7th Queens returned to the United Kingdom. They took part in the invasion of Normandy, where they landed the day after D-Day and were involved in the heavy fighting around Villers-Bocage. It was shortly after this that Gordon moved tocommand 151 Durham Brigade of the 50th Division. He was very sad to leave 1st/7th Queens, for whom he always retained a very special affection and respect. He was awarded the DSO while commanding 1st/7th Queens in 1943.

Gordon did not return home when the 50th Division was withdrawn in December 1944, and he assumed command of 146 Brigade, which remained in the area between Nijmegan and Arnhem while 30 Corps crossed the Rhine after the 1st Airborne Division dropped ahead of them. The last act of 146 Brigade was to liberate Utrecht.

A few months later he was ordered to Berlin to command 131 Lorried Infantry Brigade. This was a great thrill and he stayed there until March 1946 when his Brigade moved to an area between Hamburg and the German/Danish border. He was at the time a substantive major and an acting brigadier.

Later in 1946 he returned to more mundane staff work until he was given command of 16 Independent Parachute Brigade Group then deployed in the Canal zone of Egypt. This was a surprise appointment, since he had no previous parachute training, and the first thing he had to do was complete a parachute course at Abingdon. He commanded the Brigade for 12 months in Egypt and 18 months in the United Kingdom before becoming the Assistant Commandant at Sandhurst. This was a job for which he was particularly well adapted.

After Sandhurst he went to the Imperial Defence College and then on to be the Brigadier AQ at Headquarters 1st British Corps before becoming in 1960 General Officer Commanding 4th Division in Germany. He was at his best in command. He was a perfectly efficient staff officer but his character, temperament and ability made him particularly suited to exercising command appointments.

After this fulfilling period in Germany, he was posted as a senior military instructor to the Imperial Defence College, a time he did not particularly enjoy. From there he moved to become the Assistant Chief of Defence Staff (G) at the Ministry of Defence, a job for which he himself admitted he was entirely unsuited. It was in many ways a sad end to a very distinguished wartime and peacetime career. He did, however, have some compensation, in that he was given an additional two years as chairman of a committee examining the future size and strength of the Army.

He led a very active life after his retirement. He officially became Colonel of his Regiment in 1965, although he had been a driving force in the council of the Green Howards long before that. He handed over as Colonel nine years later in 1974. The first young officer whom he recruited was Officer Cadet Peter Inge, later to become Chief of the Defence Staff, and the last he recruited was David Santa-Olalla, who won a Military Cross in Northern Ireland and a Distinguished Service Order in Bosnia. In addition, he masterminded the formation of a new regimental headquarters and regimental museum at Richmond in Yorkshire, which won a Museum of the Year Award, and was an example to many about how regimental museums would have to change if they were to remain exciting and attractive.

Equally demanding was a very significant commitment to the St John Ambulance Brigade. He became a Member of the Order of St John and was the Commissioner-in-Chief from 1973 to 1978. He was a great exponent of modernisation. Under his leadership the Air Wing was expanded and he encouraged the Aeromedical Branch.

He was selected as a magistrate in 1967, later becoming chairman of his local Bench until he reached the age of 70. He was also a member of the Hampshire Police Authority and a Deputy Lieutenant for the county. He was appointed CBE in 1952 and CB in 1961.

He is survived by his wife Sybil, whom he married in 1940, and by their son and daughter.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Andrew Ballad, Walkden St Paul w Little Hulton St John the Baptist (Manchester): to be Team Rector and Vicar, Rochdale St Chad (same diocese).

The Rev Andrew Baughen, Assistant Curate, Battersea Rise St Mark (Southwark): to be Priest-in-Charge, Clerkenwell St James (London).

The Right Rev Michael Baughen, Assistant Bishop of London (London): to be Priest-in-Charge (*pro tem*), Clerkenwell St James (same diocese).

The Rev Stephen Cox, Vicar, Holloway Road St Mary Magdalene, and Area Dean of Islington (London): to be Team Rector, Upper Holloway, remaining as Area Dean of Islington.

The Rev Timothy Davies, Curate, Eynsham St Leonard, and Cassington St Peter (Oxford): to be Associate Vicar, Fulwood (Sheffield).

The Rev David Leahy, Vicar, Hobs Moat St Mary (Birmingham): to be also Dean of Solihull (same diocese).

The Rev Vernon Lidstone, Diocesan Officer for Parish Development (Gloucester): to be Chaplain, HMP Leyhill (same diocese).

The Rev David Makepeace, Team Vicar, Radipole and Melcombe Regis (Salisbury): to be Vicar, Sandgate w Folkestone (Canterbury).

The Rev John Neal, Vicar, Eltham St Barnabas (Southwark): to be Vicar, Eltham St John the Baptist (same diocese).

The Rev Michael Pain, Team Rector, Melksham, and Chaplain, Melksham Hospital (Salisbury): to be Team Rector, Redhorn (same diocese).

The Rev Patricia Philips, Priest-in-Charge, Childswyckham w Aston Somerville, Buckland and Snowshill (Gloucester): to be Vicar, same benefice.

The Rev Clare Pipe-Wolferstan, Honorary Curate, East Bristol (Bristol): to be Priest-in-Charge, Brislington St Anne (same diocese).

The Rev David Powe, Chaplain, HMP Lewes (Chichester): to be Chaplain, HMP Belmarsh (Southwark).

The Rev John Sharples, Chair of the Diocesan Board of Education (Liverpool): to be also Honorary Canon of Liverpool Cathedral.

The Rev Sylvia Stevens, Assistant Curate, Chippenham St Peter (Bristol): to be Rector, Everton and Mattersey w Clayworth (Southwell).

The Rev Michael Tavinor (sic), Vicar, Tewkesbury w Walton Cardiff, (Gloucester): to be also Honorary Canon of Gloucester Cathedral.

The Rev Colin Wilson, Assistant Curate, High Wycombe All Saints (Oxford): to be Priest-in-Charge, Broadwell, Evenlode, Oddington and Adlestrop (Gloucester).

Retirements & resignations

The Rev Albert Bewley, Vicar, Lakenham St John the Baptist and All Saints (Norwich) retired October 31.

The Rev Richard Buckley, Vicar, Wentworth (Sheffield) to resign November 14.

The Rev Leonard Carpenter, Priest-in-Charge, Barlestone (Leicester) to retire January 31, 1998.

The Rev Bernard Foulger, LNSM Curate, Sittingbourne Holy Trinity w Bobbing (Canterbury)) retired November 2.

The Rev Gill Mack, Curate, Deal St Leonard, with special responsibility for Deal St Richard and Sholden (Canterbury) retired September 30 on health grounds.

The Rev Roger Nelson, Assistant Curate, Great Mongeham w Ripple and Sutton by Dover (Canterbury) resigned September 22.

The Rev Derek Osborne, Chaplain, Lee Abbey, and Canon Emeritus of Norwich (Exeter) retired October 14.

The Rev John Prothero, Rector, Willoughby-on-the-Wolds w Wysall and Widmerpool (Southwell) to retire December 31.

The Rev Ken Sargeantson, NSM Assistant Curate, Goole (Sheffield) *retired October 31.*

ON THIS DAY

November 10, 1924

Six years after the First World War ended in November 1918 there were still problems over the disarming of Germany, and German military thought was clearly directed towards a future conflict

THE NEXT WAR.
A GERMAN MANUAL
GAS, AEROPLANES, AND TANKS.
TECHNOLOGY FIRST

(From Our Own Correspondent)

BERLIN, Nov 9.

The mobbing of the Allied inspecting officers at Ingolstadt, for which the German Government has just tendered an apology to the Military Mission of Control, and the discovery of large stores of arms and ammunition at Dresden on October 30 have again drawn attention to the problem of German disarmament. While officers of the Commission are diligently searching for hidden guns and rifles, however, the Germans are apparently thinking of war from a very different angle. They really set little store by these things.

It is even doubtful whether they put a particularly high value upon the reserves of men-power which their elaborate display of training among the illegal formations would suggest. At most these can be destined for the settlement of internal questions. But General Nollet, the French Minister of War, touched on a fundamental truth when he said his real anxiety had regard to the possibilities of German industrial plants being transformed at a moment's notice for war purposes. Other observers have from time to time expressed nervousness at the idea of some sudden and secret intervention which would revolutionize war. The wireless ray to explode powder magazines and short-circuit the magnetos of aeroplanes is a source of perennial wonder in the German and American newspapers, but there is no reason to believe that it exists outside the realm of sensational fiction. From the evidence available it is much more probable that the attention of German military experts is at present concentrated upon the cooperation of aeroplanes, tanks and gas — especially gas.

It is sometimes argued that the part of infantry in future warfare will be negligible and that future wars will see its elimination, since it will be immobilized by gas attacks and hampered by heavy anti-gas equipment, and that it will make way for tanks and aeroplanes fighting with gas. The chief military writers of Germany, however, do not accept this view, though they do recognize the overwhelming part to be played by gas in the next war. The intensive study to which the new warfare is being subjected is illustrated by a timely publication, "The Chemical War," by Dr. R. Hanslian and F. Bergendorff (Berlin: Mittler and Sons), a complete manual of gas tactics in all its known forms, based on experience and practice in the late war and since. Dr Hanslian had excellent opportunity for observation on all fronts in his capacity as Staff Chemist and Gas Officer to the XXII. Reserve Army Corps (which was the Corps of Experts and Experimentalists).

It is odd that Dr. Hanslian, though giving German science all credit for enterprise in this field, should strive so desperately to prove that Germany did not begin it. For he admits that when the German defeat on the Marne had brought the advance to a standstill and the war of position had evolved, Germany's needs required some fresh method to dislodge the enemy, "for which purpose gas seemed eminently suited."

Apart from this single instance, the book is written in a spirit of complete detachment. Gas is regarded solely as a weapon of war. The authors doubt whether it is more cruel than artillery or that there is anything unchivalrous about its use. In any case, they are convinced that it has come to stay. Therefore, with complete absence of sentiment, they go into cold-drawn details of the latest lachrymators, irritants, poisons and so forth, with a complete review of their application and effect.

هكذا من الاصل

هكذا من الاهمال

THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Iraq ready to fire on US planes

■ Fears of a military conflict in the Gulf grew last night after Baghdad announced that its anti-aircraft systems were on alert to shoot down American U2 spy planes that are set to resume surveillance flights over Iraq today.

Baghdad has ordered a maximum state of alert for all military units, all military leave has been cancelled, and all commanders have been told to expect an attack ...... Pages 1, 13

Brown announces euro move

■ Gordon Brown will announce today that the first practical steps for a single currency will be taken this week with the creation of a body to oversee the change from sterling to the euro. The pledge will come as the Chancellor battles with William Hague to win the support of the business community ...... Page 1

Ministers watchdog

A new system to investigate allegations of impropriety against ministers is being urged by the Public Standards watchdog ...... Page 2

Family tragedy

Ian Erskine who never got over the death of his twin brother, Anthony, who was attacked by thugs two years ago, has committed suicide ...... Page 5

Unsafe cars

Deaths in car crashes could be halved if buyers spurned models with poor safety records, according to Europe's most detailed study of road accidents ...... Page 7

MI5 files opened

The release of MI5 files held in archives since the foundation of the Security Service in 1909 is expected to provide proof that, before and during the First World War, German spies were operating on a much larger scale than previously recorded ...... Page 8

School battle

A tiny rural secondary school, set up by an ecology guru admired by the Prince of Wales, will this week seek government funding to safeguard its future ...... Page 8

Remembering heroes

The Queen led the nation's annual act of remembrance at the Cenotaph, stirring memories that squally rain and a sharp, gusting wind could not quench ...... Page 9

Plastic 'disease'

A "disease" that destroys plastic is worrying museum curators as parts of their collections melt before their eyes ...... Page 10

Trading cheats

Benefits experts are calling on the Social Security Department to stop people working long hours in sophisticated barter schemes while claiming income support ...... Page 12

Taiwan 'independent'

President Lee Teng-hui of Taiwan has raised the stakes dramatically in his diplomatic poker game with China by declaring his island independent ...... Page 14

Frontier talks

President Yeltsin flew into Beijing at the start of a three-day trip aimed at settling for the first time in history the vast disputed land frontier ...... Page 15

Communist killers

A French book, described as the first global accounting of the victims of communism, has estimated that Communist dictators, regimes and movements have been responsible for the deaths of up to 100 million people . Page 15

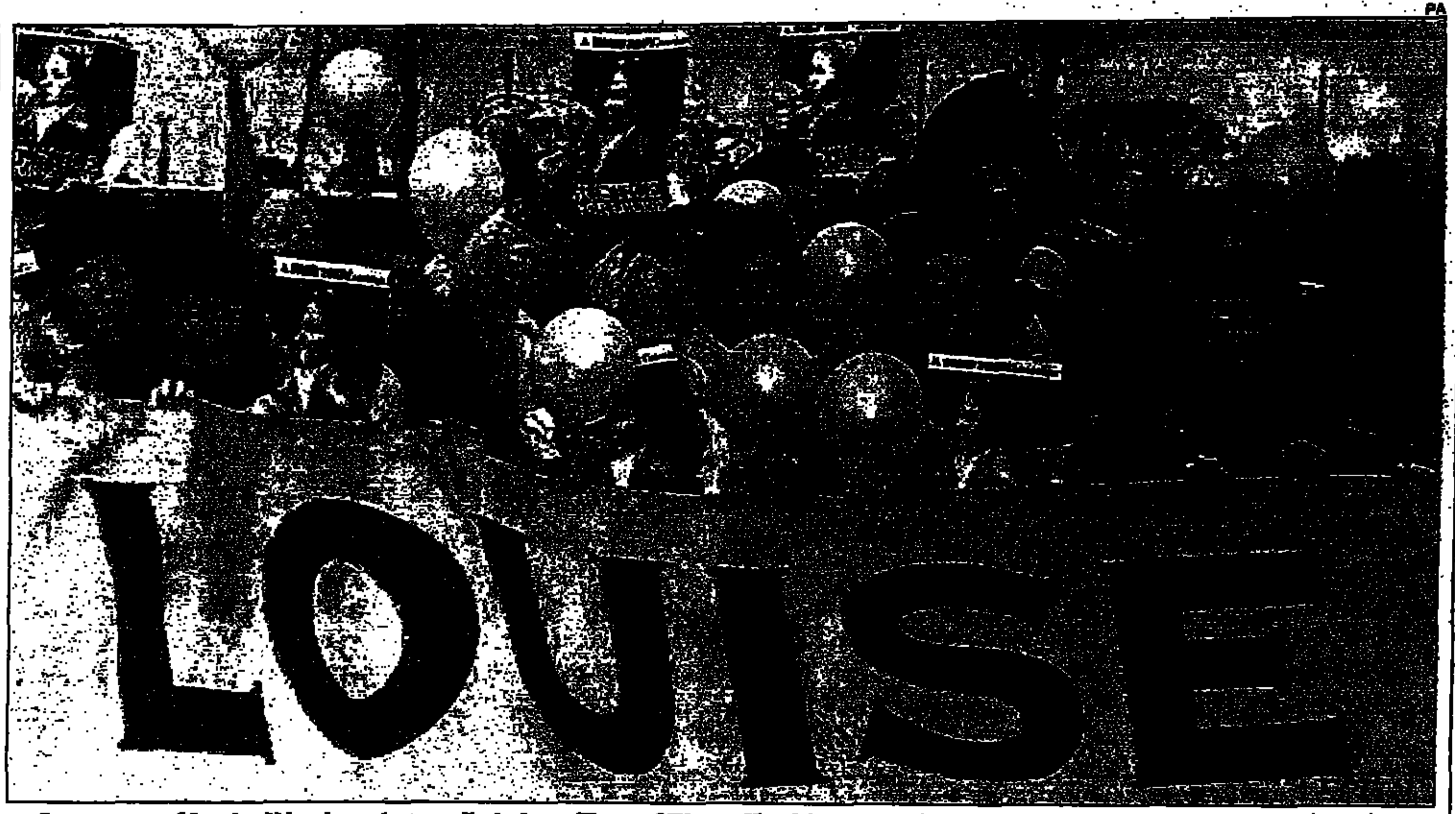
Praying rebels

A powerful movement of "godly disobedience" is sweeping schools across Alabama after a federal judge struck out a state law allowing prayer in public schools ...... Page 16

Mary Shelley story found in Italy

■ A long-lost story for children by Mary Shelley, the author of *Frankenstein*, has been discovered in the private archives of an Italian family in the Tuscan hills, where it has lain more than 150 years. The short story, entitled *Maurice, or the Fisher's Cot* consists of 39 closely written pages in Mary Shelley's handwriting. It is set on the Devonshire coast ...... Pages 1, 3

PA



Supporters of Louise Woodward at a rally in her village of Elton, Cheshire, yesterday. A judge will decide her fate today. Page 1

BUSINESS

Industry talks: The CBI and the TUC are in detailed talks on Trade Union recognition. The aim is to put agreed proposals on recognition votes in the workplace to Tony Blair ...... Page 52

Nike: Confidential documents show that its plant in Vietnam is unsafe for its poorly-paid workforce. The company says it taking action ...... Page 52

High street turnaround: How Sir Brian Pitman, the chairman of Lloyds-TSB chairman, produced the "Pitman model" and turned a dark horse into a high street winner ...... Page 48

Markets: London is waiting nervously as further instability in Far Eastern market threatened another wave of uncertainty ...... Page 52

Football: David Platt, the former captain of England, scored a late winning goal to give Arsenal a 3-2 victory over Manchester United in a thrilling FA Carling Premiership match ...... Page 27

Boxing: Lennox Lewis is at last poised to get his chance to unify the world heavyweight titles after he was installed as the next opponent for Evander Holyfield ...... Page 29

Rugby union: Bath are the sole British representatives in the semi-finals of the Heineken Cup after French clubs dominated the quarter-final matches ...... Page 35

Rugby league: Great Britain recovered their credibility and set up an intriguing final match when they beat Australia to level the Ashes series ...... Page 37

Melvyn Bragg: "It is not customary to look to a Chancellor to deliver a major statement on British history and culture. But that is what Gordon Brown did last week" Page 20

Symphonic duo: The London Symphony Orchestra under Michael Tilson Thomas plays Mahler's Seventh Symphony, while the LPO performs Bruckner's Seventh with Ivan Fischer ...... Page 20

Opera supremo: Mary Allen, Covent Garden's chief executive, admits that she has found far more to mend than she realised when she took up the Royal Opera House job in September ...... Page 21

Never say die: "Another tour, another opening in Birmingham, and another loud raspberry for Phil Collins's detractors" ... Page 21

Libby Purves: One day novelist Rob Mawson was trying to sign on the dole, the next he was worth millions ...... Page 18

Rigorous training: "There's no bravery without fear, or strength without weakness." Erica Wagner tackled an assault course, bruised but triumphant ...... Page 19

Long haul: There is a virus that surfaces in November and lingers through winter. It preys on the young and the old. Anjana Ahuja on the battle to develop a vaccine to combat RSV ...... Page 17

Bat hotel: Bat-lovers may soon be winging it to Johnson City, Texas, where the world's largest bat cave has been constructed ...... Page 17

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **ARTS**
Patrick Malahide returns to the stage as a troubled Elizabethan poet

■ **LAW**
Victoria McKee argues that the Louise Woodward trial has been battle of cultures

There has never been a Nuremberg Trial for the Communists. They killed, tortured and imprisoned millions upon millions of people in the name of ideology, and their crime is at once enormous and unpardonable

— *La Repubblica*, Rome

5, 24, 34, 37, 40, 48. Bonus 33

The first prize will roll over. Nine tickets won £310,529 for five balls and the bonus; 770 won £2,268, for five; 45,693 won £84 for four; and 900,742 won £10 for three.

Preview: New comedy about a lifelong bachelor with James Fleet and Jan Francis: *Spark* (BBC1, 8.30 pm). **Review:** In a perfect world Charlie Dimmock would be playing Moll Flanders: *Ground Force* (BBC2) ...... Page 51

A flawed survey

The CBI leadership concluded that the esential condition for EMU membership set by the Labour Government would almost certainly be satisfied by the beginning of the next Parliament. The CBI is simply wrong — on at least four counts ...... Page 23

Quest for quality

Only two propositions are compatible with the promotion of excellence in higher education. Either the college fee should be retained or Oxbridge should be allowed to charge top-up fees ...... Page 23

Jams tomorrow

Public policy should not swing from pandering to the car to excoriating its use on all occasions. But there must be alternatives to wasting one's life on the M25 .. Page 23

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

We see few giants in the modern world, and even fewer giants among the Oxford dons ... Page 22

ROGER SCRUTON

It is for us to decide, through observation and sympathy, what an animal feels. And I can tell Mr Foster for a fact, that the fish he hooks feel far more pain and fear than any hunted fox ...... Page 22

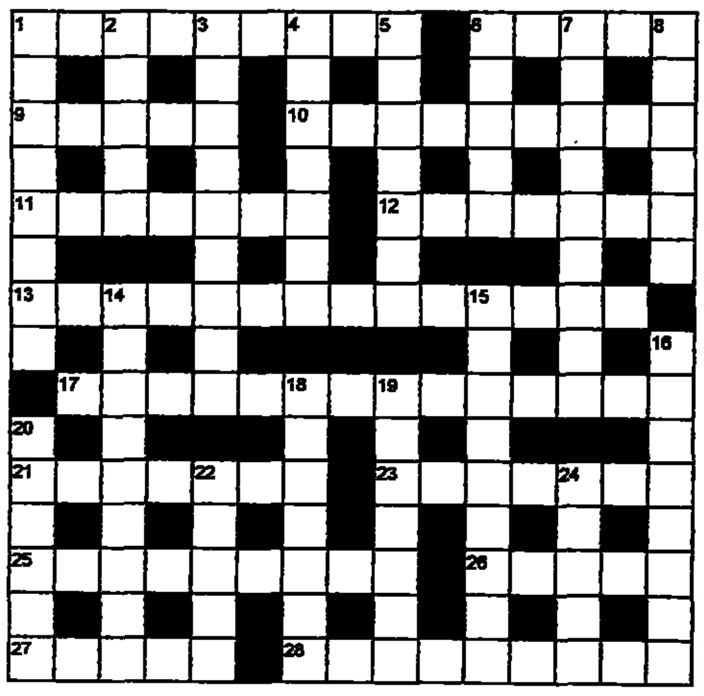
PETER RIDDELL

The long predicted demise of the Cabinet as a central organ of government has finally occurred. Cabinet Ministers still matter as heads of departments, but their Thursday meetings are no longer of real importance ...... Page 22

Baroness LLewellyn-Davies, former Labour Chief Whip in Lords; **Paul Ricard,** French drinks manufacturer; **Major-General Desmond Gordon** ...... Page 25

ERM and the CBI; diet: Russian nuclear waste; human rights Bill; faith and scepticism; breast screening; Anne Boleyn ...... Page 23

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,633



ACROSS

1 Characteristic of Father Brown, wandering once into local church (9).
6 Faint-hearted booby in retreat out West (5).
9 Like a certain star, become a high-flier about 50 (5).
10 A last grim representation of a master (9).
11 Medicine produced by day in eastern county (7).
12 Shake requiring little preparation (7).
13 Very friendly but stupid, like those with taking ways? (5,2,7).
17 Period of probation one is bound to serve (14).
21 Appearing for trial, drunk and showing irritation (7).
23 A blow experienced in Africa by knighted commanders (7).
25 Made a fortune from Merimee edition (9).
26 A couple that may turn a bit boring? (5).
27 Dodgy when female leaves in high spirits (5).
28 Old criminal arrayed in scarlet (9).

DOWN

1 Provide with cover against current disaster (8).
2 Material don got from two cities where *Times* is published (5).
3 Janitor who heeds a common parting exhortation? (9).
4 Oriental males upset over little sibling's fate (7).
5 Language briefly identified by head of Eton (7).
6 He's put out by the requests for jobs (5).
7 Inclination to enter wet area in Moroccan city (9).
8 Daughter's taken on one instrument, with low concentration (6).
14 Without stopping to think, I put mouse out (9).
15 Former City mob, half-heartedly offensive (9).
16 East or West, as against North or South (8).
18 Character on staff – one certain to succeed (7).

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 20,632

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 7 10 am
Sun sets: 4 19 pm
Moon sets 1.23 am
Moon rises 2.38 pm

Full moon November 14

London 4 19 pm to 7 12 am
Bristol 4.28 pm to 7.21 am
Edinburgh 4.14 pm to 7 41 am
Manchester 4.20 pm to 7.27 am
Penzance 4 45 pm to 7.29 am

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING

Recycled paper made up 43.6% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the second half of 1996

Catch Swissair's early bird, be in Zurich by 9 a.m., shaking

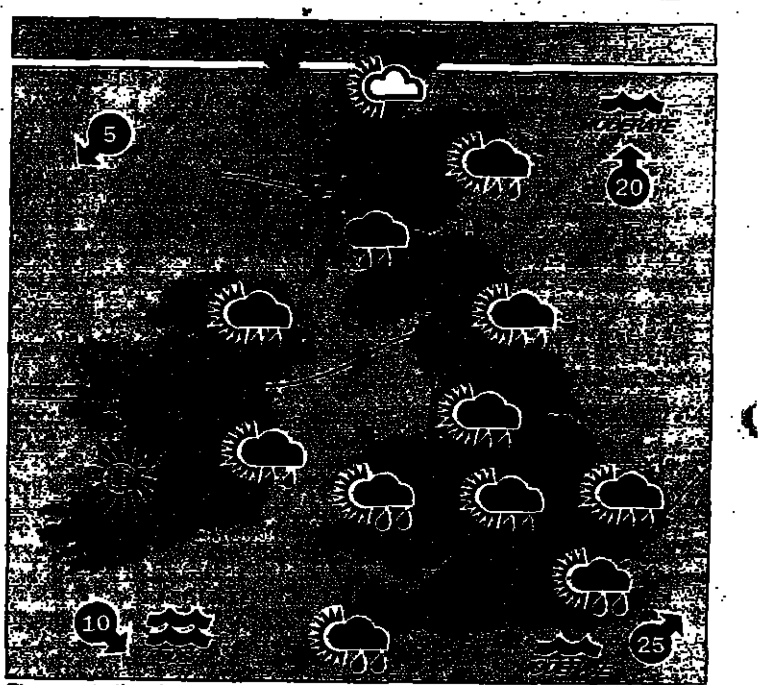
Off

☐ **General:** it will be colder than recently with blustery winds and sunshine and showers.
☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales:** sunny spells and blustery showers, some heavy and thundery. Fresh southwest wind. Max 13C (55F).
☐ **N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man:** blustery showers, some heavy with possible thunder, and brief bright intervals. Fresh west wind. Max 12C (54F).
☐ **E Midlands, E England, W Midlands, Central N England, NE England:** sunny spells and a few sharp showers. Fresh southwest wind. Max 11C (52F).
☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland:** mostly cloudy and rather windy, frequent showers, some heavy and prolonged. Max 11C (52F).
☐ **Central Highlands, Argyll, NW Scotland:** cloudy with outbreaks of showery rain. Max 11C (52F).
☐ **Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** bright spells and showers. Max 10C (50F).
☐ **Republic of Ireland:** cloudy in North and West with showery rain, brighter elsewhere. Fresh westerly wind. Chilly. Max 11C (52F).
☐ **Outlook:** becoming less windy; most areas will have sunny periods. Frost and patchy fog are likely night and morning.

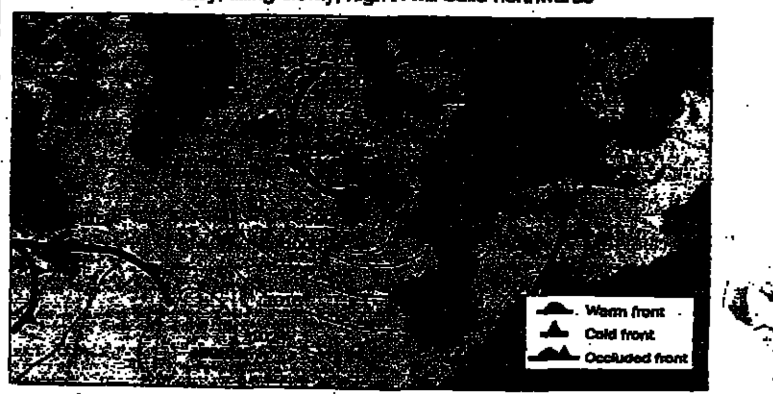
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	0.1	0.32	6	43	r	Kinloss	6.0	0.39	11	52	s
Aspatria	0.4	0.02	8	46	c	Leeds	0.6	0.06	9	48	sh
Aviemore	5.1	0.10	7	45	s	Lerwick	0.8	0.30	10	50	sh
Belfast	X					Littlehmptn	0.1	1.25	11	52	t
Birmingham	0.7	0.26	8	46	sh	London	1.2	0.16	10	50	sh
Bognor R	0.2	1.06	11	52	r	Lowestoft	2.4	0.16	10	50	b
Bournem'th	2.8	0.51	11	52	sh	Manchester	X				
Bristol	3.9	0.18	11	52	sh	Margate	0.4	0.57	11	52	r
Buxton	0.5	0.11	7	45	b	Minehead	2.1	0.67	10	50	sh
Cardiff	2.7	0.24	10	50	sh	Morecambe	1.0	0.28	9	48	r
Clacton	1.5	0.37	9	48	r	Newcastle	-	0.08	7	45	r
Cleethorpes	2.2	0.18	10	50	sh	Norwich	4.1	0.08	11	52	b
Colwyn Bay	0.2	0.46	8	46	r	Oxford	5.2	0.08	11	52	sh
Cromer	6.5	0.08	11	52	s	Penzance	X	0.49	13	55	sh
Eastbourne	0.5	1.09	12	54	t	Poole	3.0	0.85	11	52	s
Edinburgh	1.3	0.05	8	46	b	Prestatyn	X	0.32	10	50	sh
Eskdalemuir	0.1	0.01	7	45	c	Ross-o-wye	X				
Exmouth	5.7	0.19	11	52	s	Saunton Snd	3.2	0.37	12	54	s
Falmouth	2.4	0.02	13	55	b	Shrewsbury	1.5	0.07	9	48	r
Fishguard	2.1	0.43	9	48	sh	Skegness	5.4	0.15	11	52	sh
Folkestone	1.2	0.77	13	55	t	Southend	1.0	0.72	12	54	sh
Glasgow	2.7	0.01	9	48	sh	Southport	0.5	0.27	9	48	r
Guernsey	1.3	0.97	12	54	h	Stornoway	0.1	0.43	10	50	c
Hastings	1.0	0.94	14	57	t	Swanage	2.1	0.37	12	54	sh
Hayling I.	X	1.50	11	52	t	Teignmouth	4.5	0.40	12	54	b
Hove	4.3	0.11	13	55	r	Tenby	3.8	0.43	12	54	s
Hunstanton	X	0.10	11	52	sh	Torquay	5.7	0.58	13	55	s
Isle-of-man	2.0	0.09	10	50	sh	Tynemouth	-	0.09	8	46	c
Isle-of-wight	0.2	0.83	11	52	r	West-s-mare	2.0	0.28	11	52	du
Jersey	2.1	0.11	12	54	sh	Weymouth	3.5	0.46	12	54	h

Ajaccio	19	66	f	Corfu	22	72	s	Majorca	19	66	s	Rome	18	64	r
Akrotiri	23	73	f	C'phagn	9	48	r	Malaga	20	68	c	S Fr'isco	17	63	s
Alex'dria	24	75	f	Dublin	8	46	s	Malta	22	72	f	S Paulo	X		
Algiers	19	66	s	Dubrovnik	17	63	c	Melb'rne	18	64	f	Salzburg	23	73	s
Amst'dm	11	52	c	Faro	17	63	r	Mexico C	19	66	s	Santiago	27	81	s
Athens	18	64	c	Florence	19	66	r	Miami	28	82	s	Seoul	16	61	s
B Aires	27	81	f	Frankfurt	13	55	c	Milan	18	64	f	Sing'por	33	91	f
Bahrain	24	75	r	Funchal	24	75	f	Montreal	7	45	s	St'kholm	0	32	fg
Bangkok	31	88	s	Geneva	13	55	f	Moscow	1	34	c	Strasb'rg	14	57	f
Barbados	30	86	s	Gibraltar	21	70	f	Munich	17	63	f	Sydney	28	82	s
Barcelona	18	64	s	Helsinki	3	37	d	N Delhi	26	79	s	Tangier	19	66	c
Beirut	22	72	s	Hong K	25	77	s	N York	13	55	f	Tel Aviv	24	75	s
Belgrade	19	66	s	Innsbrck	18	64	f	Nairobi	21	70	r	Tenerife	24	75	f
Berlin	15	59	s	Istanbul	15	59	s	Naples	22	72	f	Tokyo	17	63	s
Bermuda	24	75	f	Jeddah	33	91	s	Nice	18	64	f	Toronto	10	50	s
Biarritz	17	63	s	Jo'burg	31	88	s	Oslo	4	39	c	Tunis	21	70	r
Borde'x	16	61	s	L Angels	21	70	s	Paris	13	55	f	Valencia	19	66	f
Brussels	11	52	r	L Palmas	24	75	f	Peking	13	55	s	Vanc'ver	11	52	c
Budapest	18	64	c	Le Touquet	11	52	f	Perth	22	72	s	Venice	15	59	c

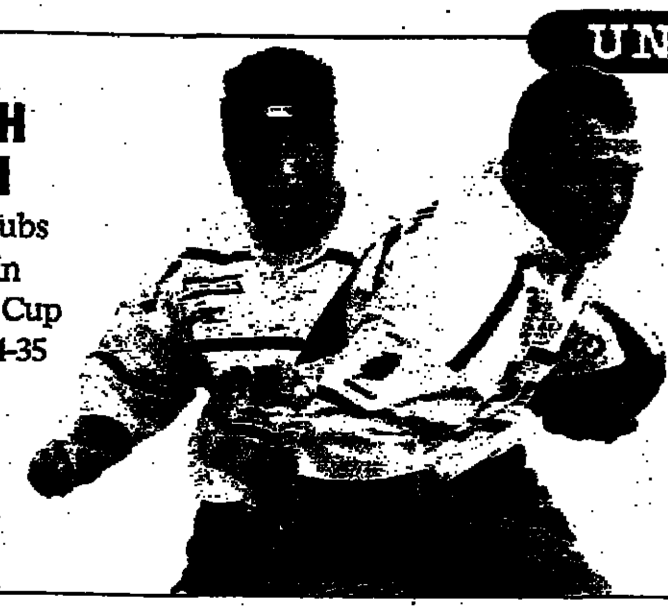


Changes to the chart below from noon: lows G and H will combine but remain stationary, filling slowly; high A will build northwards

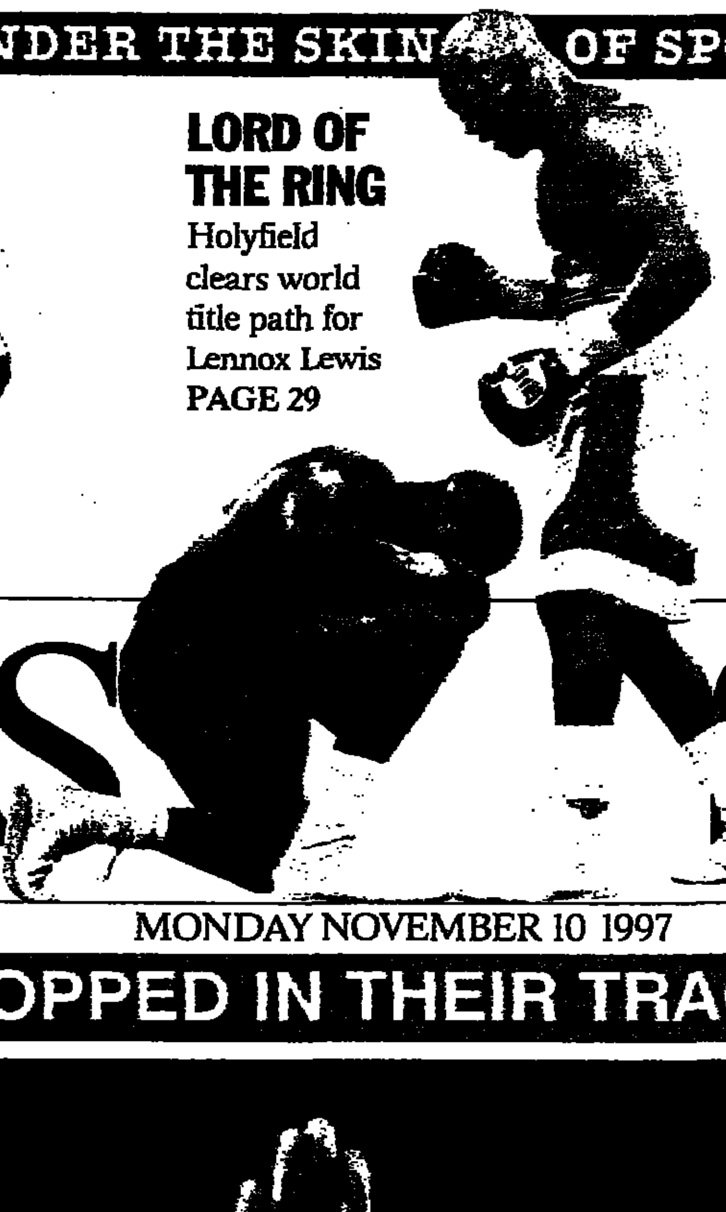


TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	09.09	6.1	22.03	6.5	Leith	10.33	5.0	22.51	5.1
Aberdeen	09.30	3.8	21.40	4.0	Liverpool	06.57	8.0	19.23	8.5
Avonmouth	02.23	10.8	15.05	11.4	Lowestoft	04.34	2.3	17.57	2.3
Belfast	06.44	3.1	19.00	3.3	Margate	07.23	4.3	20.18	4.4
Cardiff	02.09	10.1	14.31	10.6	Milford Haven	01.42	5.6	14.16	6.0
Devonport	00.54	4.6	13.27	4.9	Newquay	00.43	5.7	13.18	6.1
Dover	06.43	5.8	19.24	5.9	Oban	01.48	3.1	14.25	3.0
Dublin (N Wall)	07.43	3.7	19.52	3.9	Penzance	00.09	4.6	12.41	4.9
Falmouth	00.25	4.4	12.58	4.7	Portland	02.19	1.6	14.39	1.7
Greenock	08.05	3.2	20.42	3.4	Portsmouth	07.26	4.3	19.48	4.2
Harwich	06.57	3.5	19.51	3.7	Shoreham	06.49	5.5	19.27	5.5
Holyhead	06.18	4.9	18.36	5.2	Southampton	06.29	4.2	18.56	4.2
Hull (Albert D)	01.26	7.5	14.33	7.6	Swansea	01.46	7.8	14.21	8.3
Ilfracombe	01.25	7.5	14.08	8.0	Tees	11.49	4.7	-	-
King's Lynn	01.33	5.6	14.40	5.5	Walton-on-N	07.00	3.7	19.54	3.9

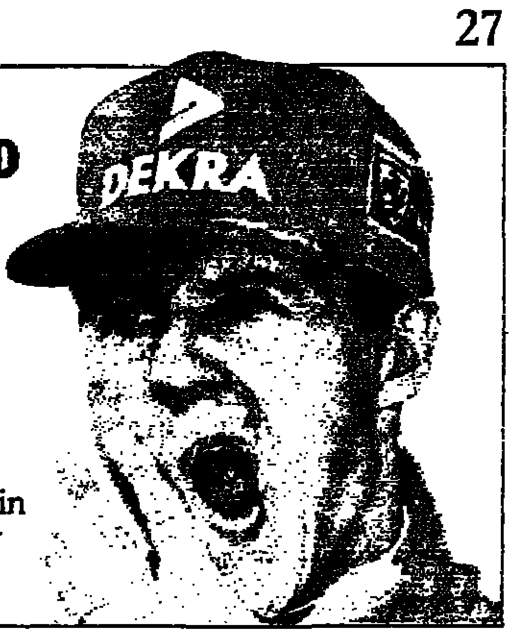
UNDER THE SKIN OF SPORT



FRENCH POLISH
English clubs outshone in Heineken Cup
PAGES 34-35



LORD OF THE RING
Holyfield clears world title path for Lennox Lewis
PAGE 29



SEEING RED
Schumacher forced back on the defence
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PLUS
Rain fails to dampen spirits in Daihatsu Junior Golf Tour
PAGE 28

TIMES SPORT

MONDAY NOVEMBER 10 1997

CHAMPIONS STOPPED IN THEIR TRACKS AT HIGHBURY

Platt stuns United with late winner

ARSENAL	3	2	MANCHESTER UNITED
Anelka 7 Viera 27 Platt 83			Sheringham 33, 41

Attendance: 38,205

BY OLIVER HOLT, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

SUSPENSIONS had weakened them, injuries had undermined them and the critics had damned them with the faint praise of being second best to a team that had been made champions-elect by the first week of November. At Highbury yesterday, though, Arsenal gave the rest of the FA Carling Premiership hope that Manchester United may not yet have the title sewn up when they scored a dramatic late victory over Alex Ferguson's side.

The win, courtesy of a fine headed goal from David Platt seven minutes from the end of a match that had pulsated with drama and tension, tore away some of the aura of invincibility that had begun to build up around United after they had scored 16 goals in their past three games.

Achieved without their two most effective players this season, Dennis Bergkamp and Emmanuel Petit, shorn of their confidence by last weekend's heavy defeat by Derby County and disrupted by a first-half injury to the influential Patrick Vieira, Arsenal's triumph cut United's lead at the top to one point and left Arsène Wenger's side and Blackburn Rovers snapping at their heels.

For once, the match was devoid of the violence and animosity that had marred many recent clashes, but, in the dying minutes of the first half, both Peter Schmeichel and Nigel Winterburn were left clutching their heads after they appeared to have been hit by objects thrown from the crowd. A Football Association spokesman said last night that they would await the report of the referee, Martin Bodenham, before deciding whether to take any action.

United, who came into the game having lost only once this season, began imperiously. They played the ball around in midfield in short, sharp bursts that left Arsenal chasing shadows and looking distinctly outclassed. When the home team did have the ball, Paul Scholes and Nicky Butt quickly dispossessed them.

In defence, the way Gary Pallister, who was taken off on a stretcher before half-time suffering from a trapped nerve, and Gary Neville dealt with one Arsenal attack did not bode well for the home side's prospects of breaking them down. Pallister robbed Wright and played the ball to Neville, who tricked Overmars with a feint at a long clearance before playing a neat pass to Butt.

In the ninth minute, though, Arsenal took a surprise lead. A shot from Overmars was blocked by Berg, but it rebounded to Anelka, the stand-in for Bergkamp, and the Frenchman fired a fierce right-foot shot through Gary Neville's legs and past the startled Schmeichel.

Three minutes later, Anelka forced a fine save out of Schmeichel with a low shot from the edge of the area and then, in the 27th minute, surprise turned to disbelief when Arsenal went further ahead. United failed to clear Winterburn's corner and, after Pallister had taken an ineffective swipe at it, it fell to Vieira on the right-hand edge of the box. The Frenchman struck it first time and it curled beyond the despairing dive of Schmeichel into the roof of the net.

Such is United's resolve, their unshakeable self-belief, that they did not waver. Twelve minutes before the interval, Beckham nodded a long ball down to Cole on the edge of the Arsenal area and Cole laid the ball back to Gary Neville. Neville waited for Sheringham to reposition himself in the box before curling a pinpoint cross on to his head, which the England forward dispatched almost nonchalantly.

Sheringham's celebration, which consisted of running to the Arsenal fans and kissing the badge on his shirt, also attracted censure last night and, in the 41st minute, he repeated it. This time, a sublime flick from Giggs freed him on the edge of the area and he lashed a left-foot volley beyond Seaman to level the scores.

United had a penalty appeal turned down on the stroke of half-time, when Scholes appeared to be tripped by Winterburn. Ferguson said later that that was the turning point of the game, but Wenger said that, when the interval arrived, he suspected that Arsenal were going to lose.

The second half was tame by comparison, until the last ten minutes. Bould had replaced the injured Vieira at half-time and Arsenal, who switched to a back three, ceded nothing to United in defence. In the Arsenal attack, Wright and Anelka became increasingly ineffective.

The introduction of Wreh for Anelka in the eightieth minute transformed the match, though. Two minutes after he had come on, Wright got to the byline and crossed for the substitute. He sidefooted his shot towards goal, but it was deflected by Gary Neville and somehow Schmeichel, wrong-footed, managed to claw it away. Neville hugged him, but his relief was premature.

From the resulting Winterburn corner, Platt rose majestically to head the ball over Schmeichel and Phil Neville, who was guarding the post, for the Arsenal winner.

Three minutes from the end, Wreh should have added a fourth after more delightful creative work from Wright, but he sliced his shot wide. Still, 4-2 might have been gilding the lily. For Arsenal and for the rest of the Premiership, a United defeat was enough.

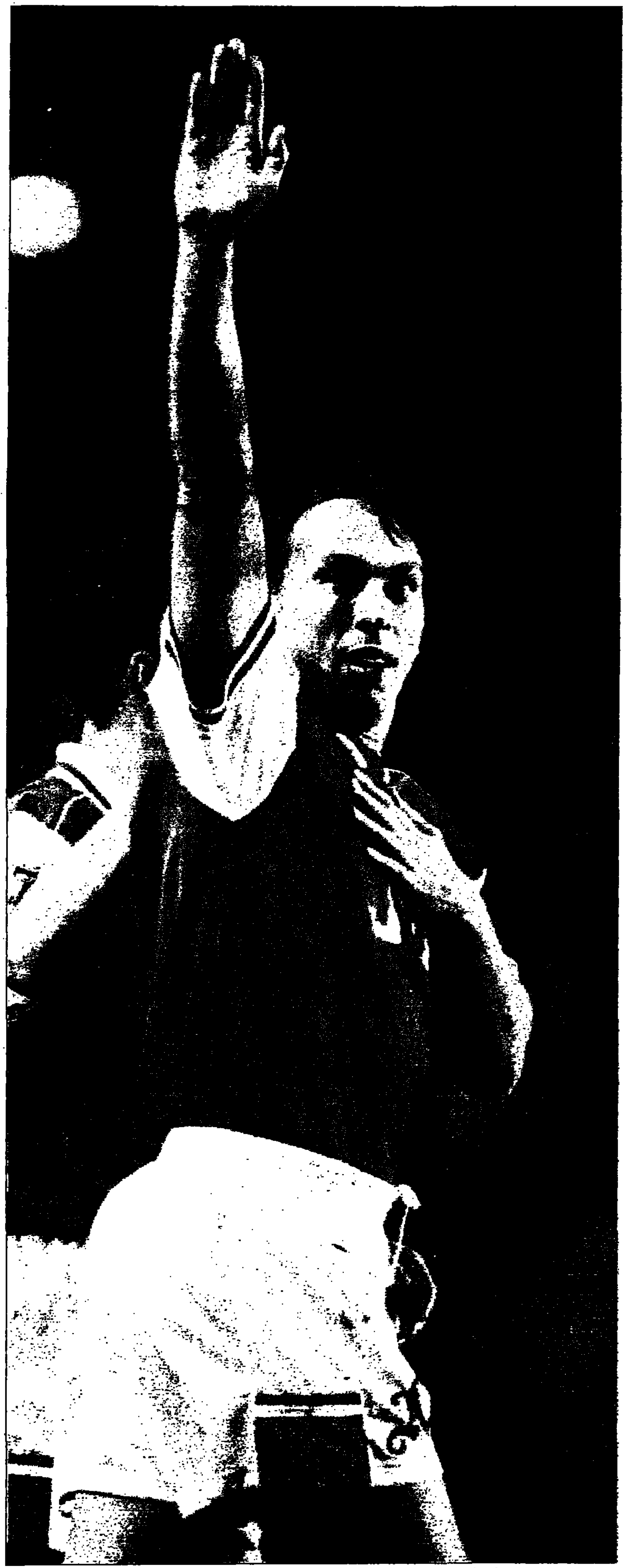
ARSENAL (4-4-2): D Seaman — L Dixon, A Adams, G Grimandi, N Winterburn — R Parlour, P Vieira (sub: S Bould, 46min), D Platt, M Overmars — N Anelka (sub C Wreh, 80), I Wright.

MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2): P Schmeichel — G Neville, G Pallister (sub: R Johnson, 39), H Berg, P Neville — D Beckham, N Butt, P Scholes, R Giggs (sub: O G Solskjaer, 72) — A Cole, E Sheringham

Referee: M Bodenham.

TOP OF TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Man Utd	14	8	4	2	31	10	28
Arsenal	14	7	6	1	30	15	27
Blackburn	14	7	6	1	26	13	27
Chelsea	13	8	1	4	29	16	25
Leeds	14	7	2	5	20	16	23



Platt salutes the Highbury faithful after heading the dramatic late winner that brought Arsenal to within a point of Manchester United at the top of the Premiership. Photograph: Marc Aspland

Wenger's relief at stopping runaway lead

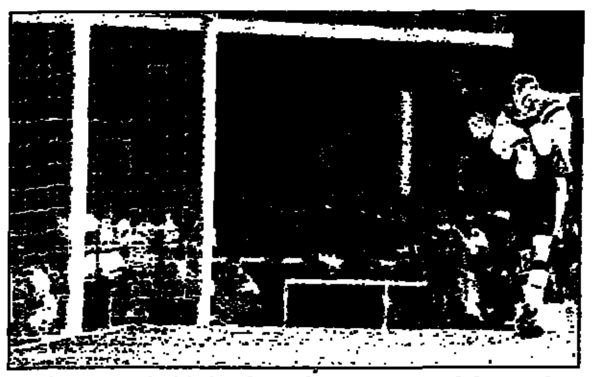
ARSENE WENGER, the Arsenal manager, hailed his side's victory over Manchester United as a triumph for English football. "The winning goal from Platt was a very, very important goal," Wenger said. "Not just for us, either, but for all of English football.

"Everyone was scared that they would come here and win it and start running away from the rest of the teams. There will be other managers around the country celebrating with me today.

"We were really only expecting a point from today, but for me it was very important for us to win a big game at home. We lost all our important games at Highbury last season and it starts to affect the pride of your fans if it keeps happening. At half-time, I thought we would probably lose."

Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, was scathing about the decision of Martin Bodenham, the referee, not to award a penalty when Scholes fell under a challenge from Winterburn. "He's a master of not seeing things," Ferguson said.

He also hinted at the genesis of another club versus country disagreement when he voiced his displeasure about Teddy Sheringham being forced to report for England training at Bisham Abbey tomorrow, even though he contracted a knee injury during yesterday's match. "Glenn Hoddle wants him there, but he is not going to be fit," Ferguson said. "He could be back at Old Trafford getting treatment with us."



Schmeichel holds his face after being struck by a coin

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MOTOR RACING

Schumacher hit by new claims of rule-breaking

By Michael Calvin

THE internecine warfare convulsing Formula One acquired a new intensity yesterday when Michael Schumacher, whose advocates have sought to highlight the questionable morality of the sport, was accused of ignoring one of motor racing's most sacred rules.

In what appeared to be a fresh attempt to shift the emphasis back on to the character of Schumacher, who tomorrow answers charges that he deliberately rammed Jacques Villeneuve at the European Grand Prix in Jerez on October 26, sources suggested that he ignored a red flag that had called a halt to an important test session at Monza.

Schumacher, who is due to defend his reputation at an extraordinary meeting of the world council of the FIA, motor sport's governing body, near Heathrow, was said to have driven around the Autodromo Nationale at racing speed for a further three laps so that he could complete a test over a race distance of 53 laps. This was despite the session having been stopped to enable a truck to retrieve a McLaren that had spun off the track.

One engineer at the test, at Ferrari's home track in early September, asked angrily: "What gives him the right to do that?"

The incident carries echoes of a more public show of defiance in Schumacher's troubled 1994 season, which reached a controversial conclusion when he won his first world championship in Adelaide after a collision with the Williams driven by Damon Hill. Schumacher was condemned for apparently ignoring a black flag, informing him of his disqualification from the British Grand Prix at Silverstone.

An FIA official confirmed yesterday that the organisation had responded to complaints from several rival teams, who complied with the order to stop, after refusing a request by Ferrari, who wanted a safety car employed to help them to run without interruptions. However, disciplinary action was deemed impractical because the incident was not recorded by the session's official observer, a locally-based steward.

In itself, the episode is of tangential importance, but, as the latest twist in a far-reaching controversy, it serves to emphasise the prevailing mood of rancour and recrimination. The publication by *The Times* on Saturday of transcripts of conversations between Villeneuve, Schumacher and their respective pit crews at Jerez has deepened divisions down the pitlane.

Williams officials stressed yesterday that they were "extremely disappointed" that private conversations had been recorded. Frank Williams, the team owner, who blamed Ferrari for leaking the Jerez tapes, was "disappointed but not really surprised" by the eavesdropping. Max Mosley, the FIA president, will push for freedom of access to radio transmissions at a meeting of team principals on Friday.

Luca di Montezemolo, the Ferrari president, predictably made politcal capital out of evidence that a deal had been struck between Williams and McLaren, which led to Villeneuve allowing Mika Hakkinen through for the first victory of a grand prix career that has spanned five seasons. "It's now become clear to everyone that Ferrari have had to compete not against one team but two," he said. "I'm not shocked by it."

His air of world-weary cynicism was in marked contrast to the attitude of Willi Weber, Schumacher's manager. "I'm a bit shocked by all this," he said. "I just hope it was only the final race of the season that they had an agreement for."

Schumacher spent yesterday driving the current Ferrari for the final time, at the Enna-Pergusa circuit in Sicily. He recognises that punishment by the FIA is almost inevitable, given the global outcry that greeted his initial absolution from blame for the Jerez collision, but hopes that it will be limited to a fine.

Wider issues, dealing with Formula One's constitution in the build-up to stock market flotation, will be discussed at the meeting of team owners on Friday. Mosley, who has set a deadline of November 15 for entries for the championship next season, will forbid collusion between teams.

Schumacher: complaints

Passing the buck, page 38

McEvoy crowned after the storm

Mel Webb watches torrential rain force abrupt end to finale of Junior Golf Tour

The wind blew, the rain tumbled — it was no time to be a golfer. Why, it was no time to be a duck, even, and they are used to the curse of Pluvius. Neither storm nor tempest, however, was enough seriously to bother the players in the Daihatsu Junior Golf Tour Tournament of Champions at Chart Hills in Kent yesterday. Then thunder and lightning came to call and, in minutes, the event was brought to its knees.

One place nobody wants to be when that sort of high-voltage rubbish is about is strapped to the lightning conductor of the parish church. Another is anywhere on a golf course; lightning loves the shafts of golf clubs, with one exception — "not even God can hit a one-iron," according to Lee Trevino.

The first flash of lightning and its cousin, the clap of thunder, had barely died away before a finger was pressed firmly on the klaxon button.

In the 29 competitors had to come and, by the time that they had all been safely counted into the sanctuary of the clubhouse, the thunder and lightning had become academic, since the rain that had accompanied it had unfortunately rendered the course unplayable.

Tees, fairways and greens became saturated; not even a course as well drained as this could cope with the sort of flood that would have had Noah satisfied that he had made a good career decision. The Nick Faldo-designed course had shipped upwards of an inch of rain in the previous 24 hours and there is scarcely a lay-out in Britain that could even begin to stand up to that sort of deluge.

There would be no more golf played on this day; fortunately, the entire field, composed of the winners of tournaments on the three divisions of the Tour, run in association with *The Times*, had played at least nine holes and Colin Springate, the tournament director, immediately decided that the event would be decided over 27 holes. Happily, in the interests of justice, the leader after nine holes of the second day would almost certainly have won the event had it run its course. Richard McEvoy had shared the lead with Gareth White overnight after both had had rounds of 70, two under par, and he was still one under when he completed the 9th yesterday. His total of 107, one under par, left him three strokes clear of White, Daniel Kitteridge and Mark Booker, with Adam Ward, James Holmes and James Dickinson a further two strokes adrift.

McEvoy, left, the champion of champions, displays his trophy alongside the North tour winner, Holmes, at Chart Hills yesterday. Photograph: Denzil McNeelance

SCORES

SCORES: 107: R McEvoy (Thorpe Hall) 70, 37 110: G White (Glossop and District) 70, 40; D Kitteridge (Great Hadham) 74, 36; M Booker (Royal Mid-Surrey) 75, 35. 112: J Dickinson (Saffron Walden) 73, 39; A Ward (Whittington Heath) 74, 38, J Holmes (Crewe) 76, 36; 113: R Rea (Royal Mid-Surrey) 75, 38; L Godwin (West Malling) 76, 37 114: G Cattrell (South Moor) 79, 35 115: A Colley (Ladbrook Park) 77, 38; K Johnson (Frilford Heath) 78, 37, T Collins (Three Rivers) 78, 37; J Kavanagh (Stoke Poges) 78, 37 116: D Ryles (Camberley Heath) 76, 40; A Richards (Stanmore) 79, 37 117: L Barkaway (Chart Hills) 76, 41 118: C Johnson (South Moor) 77, 41. 119: A Keeton (Matlen Hall) 77, 42 120: J Connelly (Wath) 78, 42; R Porter (Tylney Park) 78, 42; N Wardle (Bishop Auckland) 80, 40; C Allison (Clitheroe) 82, 38; A Turner (Knaresborough) 82, 38 121: D Hodgson (Effingham) 78, 43 122: A Laing (Isle of Man) 81, 41. A Sams (Peacehaven) 82, 40. 124: G Gillatt (Rossendale) 87, 37. 129: J Salt (Ringway) 85, 44

McEvoy, 18, a scratch-handicap member of Thorpe Hall, in Essex, is eligible for the competition next year and he hopes to play a full season of amateur golf before attempting to win a PGA European Tour card next autumn. If he has the same game and shows the same maturity that he displayed here when he attends the qualifying school — professional golf's equivalent of the Chinese water torture — then he has a better than even chance of making the grade.

McEvoy and White played in the same three-ball at the front of the field and it was no time at all before their encounter resolved itself into a matchplay situation. McEvoy birdied the 1st, where White dropped a shot, and the lead was stretched to three when White had another bogey at the 2nd. McEvoy still held that three-stroke lead by the time that they left the green at the 9th, having covered the front half in 37, one over par, to White's 40.

McEvoy went on to to play his best golf on the back nine; he did not know it at the time, but he was doing it for fun. He was already the winner and not even the elements, at their most ferocious, could do a blind thing about it.

HOCKEY

Crutchley sets England on their way to clean sweep

From Sydney Friskin
in Cairo

BOBBY CRUTCHLEY'S goal after eight seconds set England on their way to a 3-2 victory against Egypt yesterday. Having emphasised their superiority by winning 6-1 on Saturday, England emerged from the five-match series with a clean sweep.

Only three players — Mayer, Humphrey and Crutchley — touched the ball before it hit the backboard of the Egyptian goal yesterday. The home side had hardly gathered breath when Garcia converted a penalty stroke in the fourth minute.

However, fatigue set in for both sides and England, despite making quick changes, failed to add more goals before the interval.

Egypt had two men suspended towards the end of the first half, but gained renewed confidence early in the second period, when Mahmoud Samir, their outside left, deflected a free hit into goal past Luckes, who had replaced Mason in goal.

England began to struggle to preserve their slender lead. In the absence of Giles, who was rested, they had squandered two short corners in the first half, but Crutchley came to their rescue by converting the next short corner in the 54th minute to give them a 3-1 lead.

Egypt persevered with quick breaks along the flank and the match ended in as dramatic a fashion as it had begun, when the home team converted a penalty stroke in the dying seconds.

The penalty was awarded by Andy Hoyes, the English umpire, after a save by Luckes at a short corner had led to a scramble.

Barry Dancer, the England coach, had plenty of cause for satisfaction. "This series has provided me with a wonderful opportunity for collective assessment and evaluation which would have been difficult under the pressure of a six-national tournament," he said. "The level of the opposition has been good and this has been all to the benefit of the team. I have had the fullest cooperation from the players and all the members of the staff."

On Saturday, England surpassed the Egyptians in fluency and precision and Garcia produced a hat-trick, two from penalty strokes. Hall, Giles, from a short corner, and Manpreet Kochar were the other scorers. Kochar's goal was the first for England at senior level.

Belal Ibrahim scored Egypt's only goal, reducing the lead to 3-1 in the second half.

Slough race towards fifth title

By Cathy Harris

THERE was only one question after Slough celebrated their hundredth league game with an 8-1 victory over newly-promoted Olton: which team can stop Slough winning their fifth Premiership title in eight years?

"None". Maggie Souyave, the England coach, said after Olton fell victim to another superb exhibition of crisp passing and clinical finishing. After only four matches this season, the champions have set new standards that few, if any, other sides can hope to equal.

They boast a squad full of current and past internationals; only two of their 16 on Saturday had not been capped at senior level and their coach, John Shaw, can draw on experience gained playing in two Olympic Games and more than 200 internationals.

"Slough will dominate this season and probably the next," Shaw's opposite number, Gavin Featherstone, said.

Julia Roberston revelled in a rare first-half hat-trick to set up her team's 75th league triumph, with the Scotland striker, Sue MacDonald, and Karen Brown, the England international, scoring to make it 5-0 at the interval.

The former Ireland captain, Sarah Kelleher, struck immediately after the break and Jane Smith hit the seventh in the 56th minute before Mandy Gatherer replied with a consolation goal for the home side. Brown, as usual, had the final say, when she was on target from the penalty spot in the last minute.

A hat-trick by Denise Marston-Smith for Clifton ended Ipswich's unbeaten record. She converted a penalty stroke, scored from open play and powered in a penalty corner. Ipswich lost 3-2 after leading 2-1 through Tracy Fry and Sarah Bamfield.

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SPORT IN BRIEF

Calcavecchia stays clear of the field

■ **GOLF:** Mark Calcavecchia struggled to recapture his form of the first two days but still managed to retain a substantial lead after the third round of the Sarazen World Open in Braselton, Georgia. Calcavecchia, who picked up 12 shots in 15 holes spanning the first and second rounds, followed up with a 71, one under par, and carried a six-shot lead into the final round.

Lee Westwood, of England, had a round of 70 in a chilly breeze and was alone in second place on 206, ten under par. Scott Hoch, Calcavecchia's American compatriot, was a further stroke behind after a 69. The highlight of Westwood's round was an eagle at the 9th, a par-five, where he struck a three-iron to within four feet of the hole.

Leyland promises to stay

■ **BASEBALL:** Jim Leyland, the manager of Florida Marlins, who won the World Series title two weeks ago, will return next season. Leyland has a clause in his contract permitting him to leave if the Marlins are sold and they have been on the market since June. Leyland said: "I will definitely manage the Florida Marlins next year. It's done."

Hicks proves master

■ **SNOOKER:** Andy Hicks, the world No 19, secured an automatic invitation to the Masters at Wembley in February by beating Paul Davies 9-6 in the final of the Benson and Hedges championship at Malvern on Saturday. Hicks, who built a 5-2 first-session lead, added contributions of 78, 73 and a 140 total clearance on the way to victory.

Birdie seals victory

■ **GOLF:** Liselotte Neumann, right, of Sweden, had a birdie on the final hole to beat Lorie Kane, of Canada, by one shot in the Toray Japan Queens Cup, the penultimate tournament of the US LPGA Tour, in Otsu yesterday. Lisa Hackney, of Britain, and Chris Johnson, of the United States, shared third place. Laura Davies, of Britain, was joint-fifth.

Belles regain top spot

■ **FOOTBALL:** Doncaster Belles returned to the top of the premier division after a 9-2 triumph at Berkhamsted Town yesterday. Vicky Exley scored four goals and Karen Walker hit a hat-trick. Gillian Coultard and Chantel Woodhead scored the other Doncaster goals.

Sibling rivalry

■ **LACROSSE:** Rhona Sandberg, of Cambridge University, scored a goal against an Oxford Univerity defence that included her sister, Ruth, in Cambridge's 11-2 victory that helped them win a triangular tournament at Motspur Park on Saturday, which also included London University.

Shepherd retains title

■ **BOXING:** Charles Shepherd defended his British super-featherweight title with a hard-fought, 118-117 points victory over Matt Brown in London on Saturday. Shepherd, from Carlisle, said: "I hurt him in the first and I thought all I had to do was to land a couple of punches and he was finished."

BASKETBALL

Williams inspires revival as Bears ride out storm

By Nicholas Harling

THE next time that Worthing Bears are involved in a skirmish on court, the club's stewards would be well advised to stay out of it. The fracas that chiefly involved James Havrilla, of Leicester Riders, and the home side's Don Faux on Saturday was over within a few seconds, but the four stewards who helped to break it up should not have been there.

"I am a little concerned about it," Nick Stonnard, the Budweiser League operations supervisor, said after witnessing the incident. "Stewards should only enter the courts at the request of the referees." Better than anyone, Stonnard knows that Will Jones and Richard Stokes are two experienced officials, quite capable of dealing with such matters without any need of over-enthusiastic helpers.

Havrilla, who tumbled over Shawn Swords, appeared to be kicked by Faux as he fell. Both players, who lashed out in the ensuing free-for-all, were penalised with technical fouls, but the frustration of Havrilla was typical of Leicester in general during a game that they should never have lost. Lose they did, by 91-85, to the consternation of Bob Donewald, their coach, after leading 34-19 early in the second quarter.

"It was a classic case of a tough bunch of individuals beating a bunch of soft individuals who are trying to do their own thing both in defence and on offence," Donewald said.

By half-time, Worthing had closed the gap to 46-48 and, after Swords had shot them in front at 76-74 two minutes into the final quarter, they were always ahead. Swords and Faux both finished with 16 points, but the driving force was Ryan Williams, whose 27 points ensured that the Bears would end a sequence of six successive league defeats.

"At half-time, we figured it out and got playing," Chris Jones, the Worthing coach said. "Once you start competing, things get better."

Surprisingly, Leicester could not capitalise on the determination of Billy Singleton, which brought him 25 points, or the accuracy of Gene Waldron, whose 18 points came from three-pointers.

Derby Storm consigned the league's bottom club, Watford Royals, to a thirteenth successive defeat with a 99-83 victory. Making his debut, Tony Windless scored 14 points, three more than Phil Powe, Watford's new American, managed on his first appearance.

Results, page 41

ROWING

Fours title heads to Germany

By Mike Rosewell

FOUR Germany lightweight internationals from Mainzer became the first overseas crew to win the Fullers Fours Head from Mortlake to Putney on Saturday. The Germans made up a 17sec leeway on Leander, a much heavier quad that included the world championship finalists, Rob Thatcher and Ben Hunt-Davis.

Both teams opened a large gap over other high-starting quads and an impressive third place was eventually filled by Kingston/Molesey, coached by Greg Searle's mentor, Harry Mahon.

Great Britain's world champion coxless four, with Matt McQuillan replacing Steve Redgrave and Tim Foster taking over Redgrave's usual steering duties, duly won the coxless fours category in Leander colours. Power rather than a high rate was clearly the strategy of Matthew Pinsent, the stroke, approaching the finish. He produced a token rise from 32½ to 34. The crew finished fourth, 20sec ahead of the next coxless crew, Oxford's top boat, which included Hecht, a former German international, and Nilsson, a Sweden performer.

Further German success came in the coxed fours, albeit under the colours of Cambridge. Cambridge, racing as Goldie, had two Germany internationals and an Austrian in their top coxed boat, which won its class by 16sec from London University. Ominously for Oxford, the Cambridge coxed crew were only 5sec slower than the Dark Blues' top coxless boat.

In the women's classes, the winning Marlow/Thames quad, including the Batten sisters, Miriam and Guin, and Gillian Lindsay, started at No 421 but overtook several crews to finish with crew No 407.

Overtaking was also a preoccupation for members of Britain's world champion coxless four. Lisa Eyre and Sue Walker were in the winning Marlow/Thames coxless four and Alex Beever and Libby Henshilwood were in the winning coxed four. The coxless winners had a full minute's leeway; the coxed boat was pushed by Kingston, only 8sec slower.

Photograph, page 41

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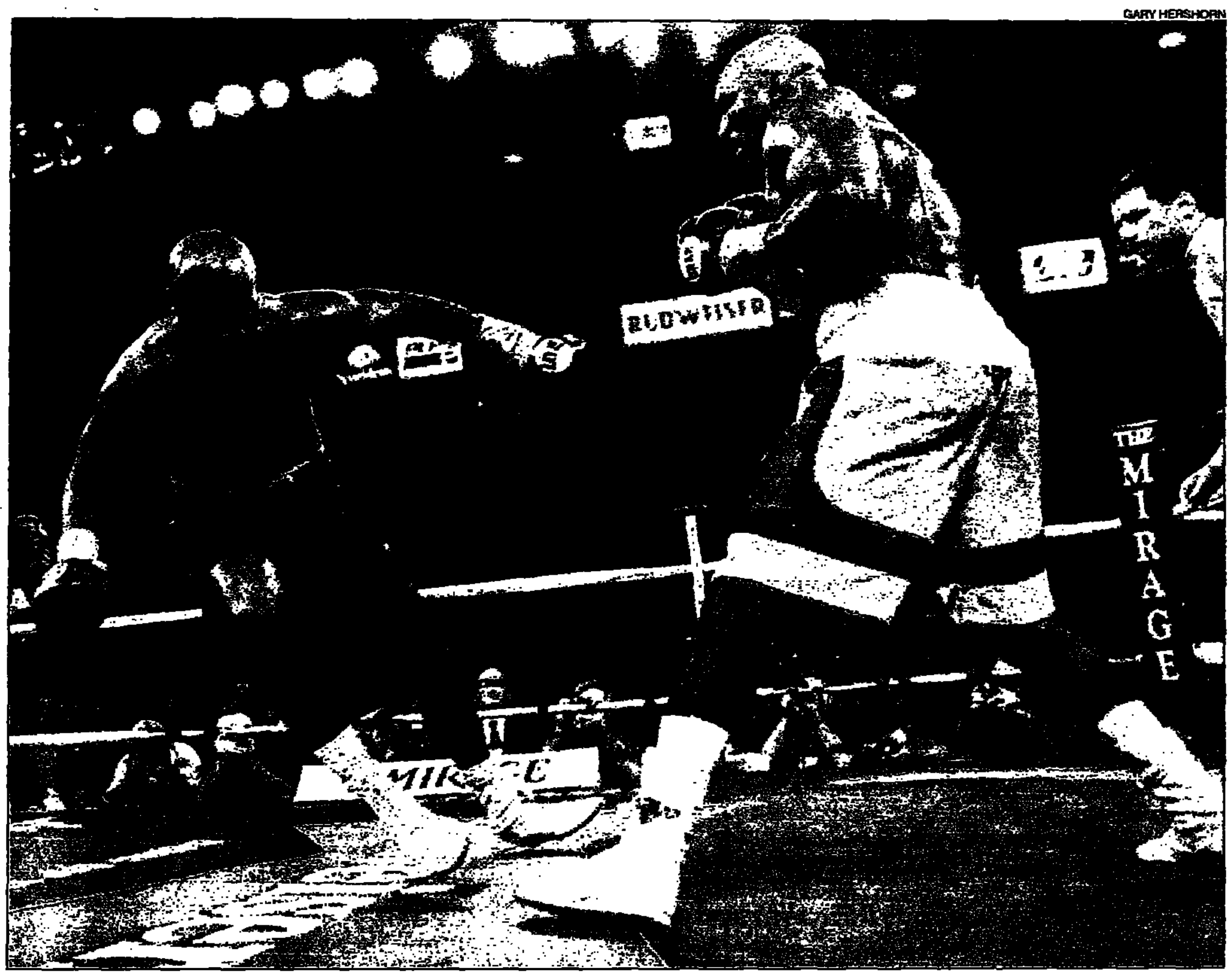
هكذا من الأصل

All roads lead to world heavyweight championship unification contest for Briton

Holyfield pushes open the door to Lewis

FROM SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT
IN LAS VEGAS



GARY HERSHORN

Moorer is put down for the fourth time by Holyfield. The challenger survived one more knock-down before the bout was stopped

LENNOX LEWIS is at last in sight of the goal that he has aimed for since he won an Olympic gold medal in 1988. The World Boxing Council (WBC) champion can fully expect to be given the chance to wrest the World Boxing Association and International Boxing Federation titles from Evander Holyfield next April or May.

If he takes that chance, he will become Britain's first undisputed world heavyweight champion since Bob Fitzsimons 100 years ago. After Holyfield's victory over Michael Moorer in eight rounds here on Saturday, Lewis and Holyfield are agreed that they should meet as soon as possible. "The undisputed crown is within my grasp," Lewis said. "I can almost reach out and touch it."

Because of the manner of Holyfield's victory, which thrilled the crowd of 12,000 at the Thomas and Mack arena, there is little doubt that the bout will be played to satisfy public demand. Because Mike Tyson is not around to command attention and there are no worthy opponents for Holyfield and Lewis in the division, even rival promoters like Don King, Dino Duva and Panix Promotions, of London, are talking about getting together to stage the bout. Only the economics of putting together what could be one of the biggest heavyweight attractions in history remain to be sorted out.

It is believed that the boxers would split around $40 million (£24 million), with Holyfield taking 60 per cent. Sports fans, who have not had an undisputed world heavyweight champion to enjoy since Riddick Bowe threw the WBC belt in a dustbin in London five years ago, will not let politics get in the way.

Home Box Office (HBO), the television company most likely to back the bout, has already set aside $3 million to publicise Lewis, making him the highest-profile boxer contracted to their company. A 100ft-high portrait of Lewis will be put up in the centre of the city in which the contest is held.

Jim Thomas, Holyfield's attorney, said: "I don't believe there are any insurmountable obstacles if Evander wants to fight Lennox. One of the most important ingredients in putting a fight together is two fighters wanting to fight each other and that is so here. The rest is hard work. The people of the world are going to recognise that the winner of the fight is the best."

The Holyfield v Moorer bout had everything the public in the stadium and viewers at home could have wished for. Their new hero, the man who humbled Tyson twice, won spectacularly. The bout was full of drama, courage and boxing skills of the highest quality, particularly from Holyfield. The double champion was lifted to a new level in the eyes of the public. Many Americans believe now there is little risk of the title falling into British hands.

"I want to unify the title," Holyfield said. "When I fought Tyson, everybody considered him the best. Now I've got two belts, one for the Heavenly Father, one for Jesus and now I want one for the Holy Spirit. I have fought everyone in my era and Lennox Lewis is the only fighter I haven't fought. I look forward to matching skills with him."

It was perfect for Lewis that demand for the match came after such a thrilling night for Holyfield fans. Some American boxing writers were even saying: "Holyfield will walk through Lewis." If Lewis can take the titles from Holyfield, there should be no complaints later and the Londoner could justifiably be called the best in the world. American journalists have denied Lewis recognition for five years. They simply referred to him as the champion who picked the title out of the trash can.

What delighted Americans was that Holyfield came through some difficult moments in the first two rounds — he was wobbled by a right-hand blow almost as soon as the fight started — to find a way round Moorer's southpaw stance, engage him in fierce exchanges for two rounds, survive a cut near his right eye and then bring Moorer down with well-placed blows. In so doing, he displayed the finest boxing qualities of technique, power and adaptability.

Moorer, for his part, fought with skill, determination and courage that few believed he was capable of showing. He was on the floor five times: in the fifth round, after a right, left and right combination; in the seventh, twice from short right uppercuts; in the eighth, again twice by uppercuts. He received ten blows in this round, but, after each knock-down, he got up and fought back.

Imagine the annoyance of American journalists when Lewis told them after the bout: "It was a so-so fight, mediocre. I don't think Evander is ready for me yet. I will stop him in three rounds. I am stronger than him and generate more power. I am looking at pedigree. I won the Olympic title at super-heavy, he was a light-heavy in the Olympics. That's the difference Holyfield has to realise. I believe I am the person that kept him in boxing when he could have retired after Tyson."

Lewis added that, to get the fight with Holyfield, he would have to make concessions. "I am even prepared to work with Don King," he said.

TV action replay, page 36

King upset over Warren deal

THE break-up of the partnership between Don King and Frank Warren has left the American promoter reeling on the ropes (Srikumar Sen writes). King, who has started legal proceedings against Warren for alleged breach of contract, said yesterday that the end of the friendship had hurt him more than the dispute over business matters.

The dispute is over a deal that Warren signed with Home Box Office (HBO), a leading American cable television company, for Naseem Hamed without King's involvement. King is claiming that, according to the partnership contract, only he had the right to negotiate deals in the United States for Hamed.

"I have 50 per cent [promotional rights] of Hamed all over the world," King said. "I was supposed to do all of Naz's business in the United States. I love Frank, I still love Frank. I am just hurt and disappointed that he chose this road. Being a businessman, I must protect my interests. When we got our man, he was just a little young kid. For years, I brought big-time shows to England and a whole new concept. The contract is secondary. What hurts is the disregard for a friend."

King said that he would have left his empire to Warren in the event of any personal setback. "Who would I have given my business to if something happened to me? Frank Warren."

SQUASH

Eyles ends long wait to take world title

FROM COLIN MCQUILLAN
IN KUALA LUMPUR

AN UNPRECEDENTED British presence in the last stages of a World Open championship — three competitors in the semi-finals — was sliced apart at the weekend by the elegant proficiency of a sole Australian. Rodney Eyles, 30, a Queenslander based in Bermuda, is the new world champion.

There could hardly be a better claimant of the title left undefended by Jansher Khan, the Pakistani who refused to play in Malaysia because he faced possible arrest for non-payment of a one million Ringgit (£200,000) child maintenance claim made against him by his former wife, Violet Soh, for their seven-year-old son, Kamran.

Eyles yesterday defeated Peter Nicol, of Scotland, 15-11, 15-12, 15-12 in a 50-minute final, having removed Peter Marshall, of England, 10-15, 15-8, 15-8, 15-6 in the semi-finals on Saturday. Nicol had defeated Alex Gough, who carried Welsh colours deeper into World Open territory than ever, 15-13, 15-8, 15-5.

Nicol might feel today that he was run over by another man's dream. "I have been chasing this for more than ten years," Eyles said. The Australian was deprived of the world junior title by Jansher Khan's sudden appearance on the international scene as a skinny 17-year-old in 1986.

"I have sat and watched others win great titles, lost a previous World Open final and a British Open final," Eyles said. "Rodney Martin told me once that the best moment of his 1991 World Open win was waking up the next morning to find he was still world champion. I can't wait to wake up tomorrow morning."

Nicol, 24, a left-hander from Inverurie, who had beaten Eyles and Jansher twice each during the past year, admitted that he could not find a way into the match. "I was more tired than I expected to be after a hard week of play," he said, "but Rod was so tight and concentrated that I just could not get started."

BOWLS

England savour success

FROM DAVID RHYS JONES
IN KOWLOON

ANDY WILLS and Stuart Airey won the Manulife Hong Kong International Classic here yesterday when they defeated Gerry Baker and Neil Burkett, the holders from South Africa, 20-9.

Burkett, one of the most competitive bowlers in the world, toiled hard to stem the tide and there were signs that a recovery might be on the cards, but Wills and Airey skilfully closed the door with some brilliant play in the second half and the holders threw in the towel with two ends left to play.

It was England's first victory in the competition's 17-year history and was achieved by two young players who have yet to make it into either the world championship or Commonwealth Games squads. Wills, 27, from Cheltenham, and Airey, 26, from Workington, both play in Tony Allcock's rink in England's outdoor team.

Their quarter-final victory against Scotland produced the most exciting finish of the weekend after England, who had opened up a big lead, allowed David Gourlay and Graham Robertson to catch them at 17-17 with one end left to play.

Gourlay employed the increasingly popular — if questionable — tactic of bringing the mat way up the rink, setting a short jack and trying to bury it in the ditch with his first bowl. Not only did Gourlay miss with all four deliveries, but Wills was lured into trying the firing shot and followed with four off-target bowls. With eight bowls delivered and not one on the green, the crowd laughed heartily.

Robertson reverted to the draw, but Airey drove with two of his woods and faced a match lie when he stepped on to the mat to deliver the last bowl of the game. Aiming to draw the shot, he was slightly overweight, but stopped on the Scottish shot and claimed the winner.

Results, page 29

TENNIS

Kafelnikov secures seventh world championship place

BY JULIAN MUSCAT
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

Bjorkman: Stockholm title

GREG RUSEDSKI, a beaten semi-finalist in the Stockholm Open, learnt yesterday that Yevgeni Kafelnikov's last-gasp attempt to gain a place in the ATP Tour world championship had paid dividends. The Russian, who beat Rusedski in Paris earlier this month, made sure of the seventh qualifying spot when he mastered Petr Korda 7-6, 6-4 in the final of the Kremlin Cup in Moscow.

The final place in the eight-man championship, which starts in Hanover tomorrow, went right to the wire. Sergi Bruguera held the call last night, but the Spaniard will have been denied if Marcelo Rios was successful in winning the ATP Tour event in Santiago. Should Rios have prevailed against Julian Alonso in Chile late last night, he will today make the arduous trip from his native country to Germany.

Rusedski is the first Briton to make the world championship field since the tournament's inception 27 years ago. He joins Pete Sampras, Michael Chang, Pat Rafter, Jonas Bjorkman, Carlos Moyà, Kafelnikov and either Bruguera or Rios in the round-robin format.

Eight players are divided into four groups of two, with each man playing the other three in his group. The tournament then reverts to a knock-out format, with the best two from each group progressing to the semi-finals on Saturday. The draw to decide the two groupings takes place in Hanover today.

Rusedski arrived in Hanover yesterday after losing a tight semi-final against Jan Siemerink in the Stockholm Open on Saturday. Although Rusedski took the opening set, Siemerink, of Holland, levelled the contest in a second-set tie-break, before completing his victory 4-6, 7-6, 6-4.

Rusedski maintained that he was far from despondent about losing to the Dutchman, ranked a lowly No 105 in the world after reaching No 15 in January. "The key to the match was the three double faults I served in the first game of the third set," he said. "I gift-wrapped that game for him, but I kept fighting. I had a chance to get back into it when I had four break points in the last game. I've got to be pleased. I'm getting my form back and I am looking forward to Hanover. It has been a gradual build-up. Hopefully, I can go a step or two further this week."

If the Great Britain No 1 feels that his return to form is well-timed, he will also reflect that the stomach virus he suffered came at an opportune moment. Rusedski was confined to his bed for two days early last week. He now believes that he is close to full fitness, a condition that he should reach after two days' practice in Hanover.

Siemerink was unable to resist Bjorkman, seeded No 4, in the Stockholm final yesterday. Bjorkman had beaten Rafter, the No 1 seed, in the semi-finals on Saturday to emphasise his rise up the world order. Playing in front of his home audience, Bjorkman started nervously before taking control midway through the second set. From that point, he gained in stature to dismiss his unseeded opponent 3-6, 7-6, 6-2, 6-4.

Thus Bjorkman, the world No 4, approaches Hanover in peak form. This was his 67th victory of the year, more than any other player on the Tour. In his two previous tournaments, Bjorkman reached the semi-finals in Stuttgart and the final in Paris. He will also lead his country into the Davis Cup final, against the United States, in Gothenburg later this month.

Williams has run halted by Davenport

Serena Williams, left, the younger sister of Venus Williams, had her outstanding run of success halted by Lindsay Davenport in the semi-finals of the Ameritech Cup in Chicago.

Williams, 16, playing only her thirteenth professional match and a wild-card entry for the tournament, was seeking her third successive defeat of players ranked in the top ten after beating Mary Pierce and Monica Seles.

Williams sustained an ankle injury in the second set of her 6-4, 6-4 defeat by Davenport and had to scratch from the doubles.

INTRODUCING THE NEW FRAGRANCE FOR MEN
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Hemmed-in Arsenal odd club out among big four

The strangest and strongest conclusion from watching two games of football, one in Scotland the other in England, within the space of 25 hours over the weekend is that it is the English version that remains closer to the native essence, the British physical core.

From the aspect of football alone, Paul Gascoigne, still England's most precious talent for touch and vision, is better protected and will emerge next summer stronger for playing north of the border.

The passion plays that are Old Firm matches between Rangers and Celtic, and the usually ferocious Arsenal v Manchester United encounters in North London are as different as a claymore and a pikestaff.

Not that Scotland is backward in its funding, with its immense and modern footballing theatres in Glasgow, or in its recruitment of overseas stars. Indeed, it was astonishing to sit among more than 50,000 spectators with so many of them committed to the continuance of a sectarian divide despite the fact that Rangers, with their Italians, actually fielded more Catholics than did Celtic. The tricolours fluttered at one end, Union Jacks waved furiously at the other and the "F" word flowed vociferously.

There were 14,000 Celtic supporters in the Ibrox stadium, their voices drowned by triumphalist singing of "Rule Britannia", and, as the two sets of fans, rooted in the past, matched each other for vitriol, how weird that each team contained but four Scotsmen.

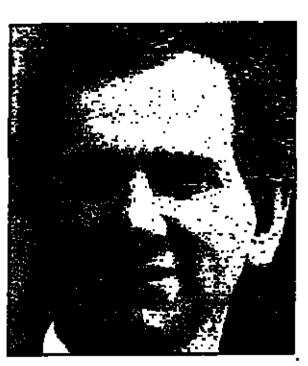
Scotland has galloped towards the Continental ideal, embracing players from eight different nations and, in Celtic's case, under the management of Wim Jansen, surpressed the cavalier instincts that thrilled audiences to bits but left the club second-best to their bitterest rivals for the greater part of a decade.

Rangers, though they won the game with a goal from their returning captain, Richard Gough, sometimes looked strangers to each other. Nevertheless, Gascoigne, enjoying a running rapport with the Paisley referee, Kenny Clark, was allowed to use his elbows and was able to play, in his own words, "more for the team than myself", pacing his output much as he pleased.

The referee used the yellow card nine times and eventually, and inevitably, had to send someone off — Stephane Mahe, the Celtic defender, being dismissed.

So, with the Glasgow sky heavy, the age-old prejudices still inflamed by lewd taunts and gestures, one journeyed south slightly deflated by a game that had bordered on the tedious, something rarely said of this fixture.

ROB HUGHES



examines a great footballing divide

At Highbury, almost the opposite. The animus of previous Arsenal v Manchester United encounters was happily absent; we are, after all, approaching Armistice Day. The refereeing of Martin Bodenham was liberal, allowing the game to flow, trusting the players not to commit bodily harm and, over the 90 minutes, getting away with it. To that extent, it was full-blooded and so very English in style.

Hardly surprising, for there were seven Englishmen in the Arsenal line-up, eight in the United team and even though the first two startling goals for Arsenal came from French boots, the battle that ensued had British character, endeavour and honesty stamped right through it. With the players as committed as human spirit allows and playing at a breakneck pace, there was precious little space to breathe.

This was a feeling Arsenal's directors understand for their wish is to be in the forefront of the British drive to lead Europe in stadium design and comfort.

The four clubs I saw at the weekend have had cash injections from the munificent seven — men of property, steel and diamond and currency trading. They actually dwarf Jack Walker in the depth of their personal wealth, the money they are willing to invest in football as a business.

Rangers, worth now 15 times the £6 million for which David Murray bought the club in 1988, have Joe Lewis, a billionaire resident in the Bahamas, rich through currency trading and apparently with only a speculator's interest in the great game, although he virtually owns Vincenza, in Italy, Slavia Prague and AEK Athens.

Celtic have Fergus McCann and Dermot Desmond, endowing the club with a stadium that will hold 60,000 when finished. Manchester United, of course, have grown even higher in world standing with Martin Edwards, who holds a stake worth £65 million, at their head. And Arsenal? Like the game yesterday, they are cramped for space. David Dein and Danny Fiszman, the diamond dealer, own shares worth millions, and, with eyes for the future, seek to expand on the same lines as Rangers, Celtic and United.

Their problem is that, unique among the four, their home is enclosed by terraced housing, denied space and goodwill in which to grow. They are stuck with a ground at which the maximum capacity can be only 38,000.

And that, given the interest in the game yesterday, given the clamour and the great expectations surrounding the leading British clubs, is insufficient. The money is there, business is willing, but how envious Arsenal must be of the free space, the huge uncluttered acreage that surrounds the Govan home of Rangers.

Gascoigne: able to pace his game in Scotland

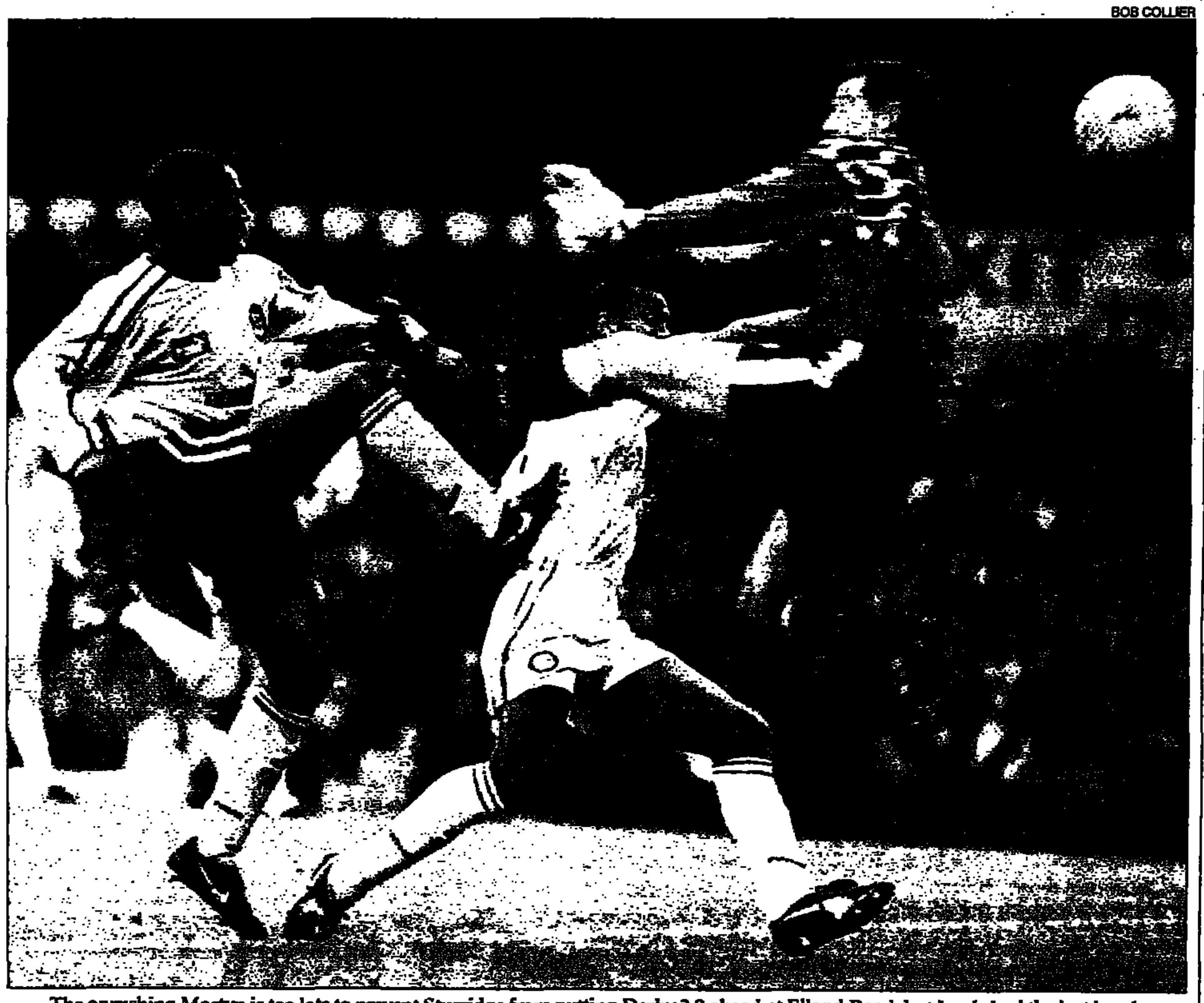
Leeds manager revels in new image as Bowyer completes recovery

Graham salutes his entertainers

LEEDS UNITED 4
DERBY COUNTY 3

By Michael Henderson

BOB COLLIER



The onrushing Martyn is too late to prevent Sturridge from putting Derby 2-0 ahead at Elland Road, but Leeds had the last laugh

A YEAR into his job at Elland Road, George Graham is a changed man. Rather like Mrs Wentworth-Brewster, the frumpy old bat in the Noël Coward song "who discovered, in the nick of time, that life was for living", the Leeds United manager seems to have absorbed some illuminating truths about his past.

How else does one account for his comment, made after two substitutes had snatched this breathless victory in the last nine minutes, that the "entertainment value was 12 out of 10"? Leaving aside the absurdity of the remark, when did this most dry-eyed of men ever consider the public spectacle of any game for which he has prepared a team? Any book titled "Entertainment the George Graham way" would leave readers feeling very short-changed.

Had Leeds conceded a goal in time added on instead of scoring one, it is doubtful that Graham would have felt so benevolent. Yet there is no denying that, however poor the defending of both goals, there was plenty of excitement as Leeds forced a win that looked improbable when they went 3-0 down inside 33 minutes. Whether Derby County took pride in their contribution to the excitement is another matter.

"We stopped doing the things we should have done," Jim Smith, their manager, said. "If we had kept the ball and passed it, then we would have won. We can't really do the job properly until we get our better players back in the side." He had half a point. Stimac, Eranio and Wanchope, who are key players, were missing here, along with Solis and Burton. Derby, though, were three goals up, a sizeable advantage in any game, before they lost their nerve. In the end, they conceded four goals for the second successive away game.

The way in which they lost the first of them, after Darryl Powell gave the ball away carelessly, was a reminder of what can befall players who think they are bomb-proof. Smith alluded to this error afterwards, without mentioning names, but even that blunder could not shake Derby out of their complacency.

Instead of reaching half-time with their lead intact, they were only one goal ahead. Wallace diverted Ribeiro's shot past Poom to give Leeds hope when a goal was essential to their wellbeing and then Kewell, who looks a forward of immense promise, scored with a spectacular left-footed volley.

For the second half, Graham whisked off Maybury, the young right back, and sent on Bowyer, who was eventually to win the game. Kelly dropped back to subdue Asanovic, who had caused all manner of trouble along the Derby left, with the consequence that Derby lost their bite. Graham deserves a commendation for rejigging his team and Leeds looked better for it.

Still, they left it late. Wetherall, Wallace and Kewell all wasted clear chances before Dailly's handball enabled Hasselbaink to equalise from the penalty spot. Hasselbaink, who was granted 15 minutes to change the match, did so when he burst to the byline and cut back a cross that Bowyer, to his great delight, belted past Poom.

Leeds should not get carried away. They are not yet a side to strike fear into the top teams, as Graham admitted, even though they have beaten Manchester United. There were some appalling mistakes in the opening half-hour, when Wetherall and Radebe were at sixes and sevens and Martyn chose to reveal his less attractive side.

Derby's first goal was a collector's item. Robertson, trying to clear Chris Powell's cross, headed towards his own goal, where Martyn, instead of catching the ball as it looped beyond him or pushing it over the bar, dropped it on to the boot of a grateful Sturridge.

The Derby striker lifted his second goal over the goalkeeper, although Martyn was exposed by Radebe, who allowed Sturridge to pounce on Poom's huge punt. That is not the sort of goal that Graham's teams concede very often and, when Robertson hacked down Sturridge to give Asanovic a third goal from the spot, the Leeds manager must have wondered what his defenders were playing at.

The answer, possibly, is that they were giving the strikers a chance to atone for their indiscretions and, at the last, they did. By then, Derby were a shadow of the team that had played so freely in the first half-hour and Smith had no complaints with the result — the first time, he said, that any of his teams had lost after building a three-goal lead.

If Leeds are improving, too many of their fans are not. The game was all of 12 seconds old when the crowd sang of standing up "if you hate Man U" and three or four hundred blockheads did. After all these years, they still rage with hatred; nor are they alone. It is desperately sad.

LEEDS UNITED (4-4-2): N Martyn — A Maybury (sub: L Bowyer, 46min), D Wetherall, L Radebe, D Robertson — G Kelly, B Ribeiro, D Hopkin (sub: J Hasselbaink, 76), A-I Haaland — R Wallace, H Kewell.

DERBY COUNTY (5-3-2): M Poom — G Rowett, C Daily, J Laursen, M Carbon (sub: R Kozluk, 53), C Powell — D Powell (sub: J Hunt, 84), L Carsley, A Asanovic (sub: P Trollope, 93) — F Baiano, D Sturridge.

Referee: N Barry

Action speaks volumes in Pleat's absence

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY 5
BOLTON WANDERERS 0

By Mark Hodkinson

A CERTAIN ruddy-faced, middle-aged man with a penchant for talking would have relished the moment. Eyes a-twinkling, training shoes a'dancing, he would have skipped into the press room and talked us gleefully through this splendid Wednesday performance until writer's cramp ensued.

Sadly, David Pleat and Sheffield Wednesday are no longer an item, so there was no aftermatch rhapsody to close proceedings. No matter. Colin Todd, the Bolton Wanderers manager, staged a wonderful drama in its place.

He marched into the press conference, trailed by two of his players, Frandsen and Whitlow. "You might wonder why I bought two players here with me . . ." he began. Said players were red of face, their expressions sheepish. "We have had a chat in the dressing-room and the responsibility for this performance lies with the players," Todd said. "They did not show any fight or resilience."

The players were seated, but Todd stood behind them, encouraging them to explain further. They looked decidedly relieved when the conference was called to a close, but Todd had not finished. "Come on, you can face the television cameras now with me," he said.

Pleat might have been absent in person, but this was a win drawn in his image. The team was industrious, the passing neat and, most importantly, the flair players were in the right mood, Di Canio and Rudi in particular. Another factor was the return of Atherton and Booth.

All the goals came in a surreal 24-minute spell before half-time, when it almost seemed as if the two teams had agreed upon a pact; that Wednesday would amble into the opposing half and Bolton would kindly move aside as they passed. Booth helped himself to a hat-trick, Di Canio and Whittingham scored the others.

At the heart of Wednesday's ingenuity was Rudi, Pleat's last signing for the club and a fitting legacy — a player, at last, who can walk the Pleat talk. He drops his shoulders as he runs in the manner of another former Hillsborough icon, Chris Waddle. Bolton could not find the ball amid his long legs and their only retort was to thresh at his shins.

In the second half, the players ran around earnestly and made token attacking gestures, but the game was in slumber. At the final whistle, the cheer was muted, almost as if Wednesday supporters were stuggling to remember the sublime football of the first half. Had they really won 5-0? Aren't they the team that always suffers heavy defeats? Was that the ghost of David Pleat they saw just then?

Peter Shreeves, the Sheffield Wednesday caretaker manager, is the antithesis of Pleat. He talks in a monotone, wears a suit on match days and is the definition of prudence. "At the start of the day, we hoped to put on a show for the Sheffield Wednesday public," he began. Oh, for one of Pleat's fanciful metaphors or a bewildering deconstruction of a six-yard pass that no one can actually recall. "I did not envisage such a scoreline," Shreeves deadpanned.

He proceeded to praise the "gentlemen" of the board and, "without being conceited", felt that he should take credit for the victory, since it was his game-plan that has prospered. He might have the demeanour of a man for whom betting 20p on a game of Ludo would require the presence of a trained nurse, but no, he claimed to be a gambling man. "I am in the gambling business," he said, "and I took a big gamble on Atherton and Booth because they are both nowhere near 100 per cent fit."

Wednesday will name their new manager on Wednesday and it is clear that Shreeves wants to be considered, or at least kept on as coach. If he is united with a more charismatic personality, Wednesday might fall upon the much vaunted dream ticket. Someone ruddy-faced and middle-aged with a penchant for talking would do nicely — as long as he does not have the letters DP stitched into his tracksuit.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-4-2): K Pressman — J Nolan, D Walker, J Newsome, M Pembridge — G Whittingham, J Magilton, P Atherton (sub: G Hyde, 69min), P Rudi — A Booth (sub: W Collins, 61), P Di Canio (sub: P Blondeau, 79)

BOLTON WANDERERS (4-4-2): K Branagan — J Phillips (sub: A Todd, 34), M Fish, G Bergsson, M Whitlow — J Pollock, P Frandsen (sub: F Carr, 34), A Thompson, A Gunnlaugsson — N Blake, D Holdsworth.

Referee: M Reed

Home sour home for Palace

CRYSTAL PALACE 1
ASTON VILLA 1

By Brian Glanville

THIS mediocre game got the kind of goals it deserved. It also made even those of us who, years ago, fought the good fight against the £20-a-week maximum wage wonder whether some rich FA Carling Premiership players are not taking money under false pretences. Winning games is all very well, but are not players expected to entertain?

"We've played six games at home," Steve Coppell, the Crystal Palace manager, said, "and we've yet to win. It's something we've got to put right."

Yes, but how and when? Palace are a team that exists on its opponents' energies rather as a judo fighter uses his adversary's strength to defeat him. Put Palace on a foreign field and they are a match for almost anybody. So far this season, they have won four of their Premiership games on the road.

Talking of fields, could their own pitch have something to do with their problems? Brian Little, the Aston Villa manager, did not like it at all. "The pitch is very slow," he said. "It's difficult to move the ball and consequently we found it pretty hard going. The ball was getting stuck under our feet and not moving well. I think they have to keep it that way for the amount of games [here], but there's far too much grass out there."

Despite all that grass, Villa did produce much the best move of the game midway through the first half, only to be frustrated by a superb save by Kevin Miller, the Palace goalkeeper, from Dwight Yorke. All the sadder and more ironic then, that Miller's late mistake would ultimately give Villa their equaliser.

Until Palace scored with a controversial goal after 42 minutes, there was little else to admire or appreciate. The goal came after Palace were awarded a free kick out on the right. Villa protested, with justice, that it was taken by Andy Roberts ten yards away from where it should have been. Shipperley, who maintained his recent improved form, met it with a forceful header.

"The linesman gave the decision," Little said, "and it [the kick] was not on the byline. We felt it was taken so far out of position that it just surprised us."

Less fortunate for Palace was the expulsion of their new wing back, Jamie Smith, for a second yellow card. The first was for a somewhat menial offence — kicking the ball away — the second for bringing down Ian Taylor.

There was still almost quarter of an hour left and Coppell said: "The sending off left us very much hanging on and, unfortunately, we couldn't hang on long enough."

With five minutes left, Milosevic evaded Lombardo and shot from outside the box with his formidable left foot. Miller allowed the ball to bounce away from him and Joachim, the Villa substitute, snapped up the loose ball.

CRYSTAL PALACE (3-5-2): K Miller — A Linighan, M Edworthy, H Hreidarsson — J Smith, A Lombardo, A Roberts, S Rodger, D Gordon — S Dyer (sub: N Emblen, 77min), N Shipperley.

ASTON VILLA (3-5-2): M Bosnich — R Scimeca, S Staunton, G Southgate — G Charles (sub: J Joachim, 71), I Taylor, S Grayson, F Nelson, A Wright — S Milosevic, D Yorke.

Referee: J Winter

Palmer makes giant strides at Dell

SOUTHAMPTON 4
BARNSLEY 1

By Matt Dickinson

IT WOULD be nice to report that the giant gulf between these sides was the languid grace of Matthew Le Tissier, ignored by England this week to cries of protest from The Dell. But it wasn't. It was Carlton Palmer, ignored by England without so much as a complaint from his mum.

Once told by a contemptuous Dutch opponent that he would be better off playing basketball, Palmer, proud owner of 18 England caps, has stuck to what he does best and it is serving him well, his telescopic legs guiding Southampton to six wins in eight games since he escaped from Leeds United.

How Barnsley could have done with the £1 million midfield player's tireless endeavour, clearing the danger behind his own defence and then breaking forward to score the goal of the game, a perfectly timed left-foot volley, to put Southampton 2-0 up after five minutes.

If the fabulous "Do I Not Like That" documentary turned Graham Taylor into a national figure of ridicule, second billing went to Palmer, whose principal contribution was as Paul Gascoigne's comedy partner. With his gangling gait, he is still an easy target. Even his own manager, David Jones, joked on Saturday: "We reckon Carlton covers every blade of grass — but then you have to if your first touch is that crap."

Palmer showed on Saturday, though, that he is as instrumental as anybody in Southampton's surge up the FA Carling Premiership table.

"Look, it takes all sorts to play this game," he said. "There are teams struggling in this division because they are full of fancy Dans. At the end of the day, gifted players, like Chris Waddle and Matt Le Tissier, need someone to do the running for them and I am happy to do it. But I seem the last person people want to give credit to.

"I get annoyed when people say: 'Oh look at Carlton Palmer giving the ball away again.' I would like to look at the statistics in the Premiership and see how I compare. People go on about England, but at the time Graham Taylor picked the best midfielders in the country — myself, David Batty and Paul Ince."

If his move to The Dell is a new beginning for Palmer, for woeful Barnsley this defeat was surely the beginning of the end. They surrendered after just five minutes, by which time Moses had barged Davies to the ground, allowing the fitful Le Tissier to score from the penalty spot, and Palmer had crisply volleyed home.

Davies, who looks certain to forge an impressive partnership with Hirst, provided that his accomplice stays fit, scored the third goal after 35 minutes and it could have turned into a rout had Southampton not allowed Barnsley to restore some confidence. Lundekvam needlessly tripped Liddell before half-time and gave Bosancic the opportunity to score from the spot.

Hirst made it 4-1 in the second half and the sight of Le Tissier teeing him up in between lacing up a new pair of shiny red boots was too much for Danny Wilson, the stoic Barnsley manager. Defeat, even by six or seven goals he can take; embarrassment — and this was certainly one — he cannot.

"I am sick of having to come in after games and justify losing by so many goals," he said. "If we have to go down, we will go down with a damn good fight. Today, we went down with a whimper. I can't keep protecting the players from criticism. I am fed up with taking the flak for them, so we will see how tough they are now, what type of characters they are.

"I don't want to get the sack, but if we carry on losing like this, the chairman might have to look at the situation. I am happy to take responsibility for my job, but not when the players perform like that. We could put ten at the back and we would not keep a clean sheet. It is time the players took some responsibility."

SOUTHAMPTON (4-3-1-2): P Jones — J Dodd, C Lundekvam, K Monkou, F Benali — C Palmer, K Richardson, M Oakley — M Le Tissier (sub: S Basham, 82min) — K Davies, D Hirst (sub: R Slater, 82).

BARNSLEY (3-5-2): D Watson — A Moses, P Shirtliff (sub: D Sheridan, 45), A de Zeeuw — N Eaden, M Bullock, J Bosancic, E Tinkler, A Krizan (sub: D Barnard, 62) — A Liddell, J Hendrie (sub: L Ten Heuvel, 55).

Referee: G Ashby

Practice makes perfect as free kick specialist turns closely-fought London derby Chelsea's way

West Ham fail to heed Zola's warning

CHELSEA 2
WEST HAM UNITED 1

By Brian Glanville

WEST Ham United had their warning. In the first half, one of Gianfranco Zola's tremendous, swerving right-footed free kicks had been bravely headed away by Rio Ferdinand. After 83 minutes, with Chelsea leading 1-0, West Ham gave away another free kick in a dangerous position. Pearce fouled Mark Hughes, Hartson was lured off the goalline and Zola struck again.

This time, there was nothing even Forrest, the West Ham goalkeeper, could do, let alone Ferdinand. The ball soared into the top right-hand corner of the net; Chelsea were two ahead and beyond reach.

"The feeling I have with the ball is very important," Zola said. "At this moment, I always have a good feeling." Meanwhile, he is practising those free kicks for up to an hour a day. Zola, according to Harry Redknapp, the West Ham manager, was the difference. "The little fellow is different class," he said.

Played at a tremendous pace, this was an FA Carling Premiership derby in which West Ham did well until the interval, although they kept only Hartson up the field. Inspired support came from Berkovic, whose balance, control and flair rivalled that of Chelsea's gifted Italians, Zola and Di Matteo.

It was only in the second half, when Ruud Gullit, the manager, had pulled Petrescu off, brought Nicholls on and changed tactics, that Chelsea began to dominate the midfield and Di Matteo run wild and free on the right. Certainly, he gave West Ham the kind of problems that they did not previously encounter.

Gullit felt that, in the first half, West Ham had the legs of Chelsea because his team had played a Cup Winners' Cup-tie on Thursday. However, it was not until late in the game that Redknapp brought on Sammassi, the clever little French attacker, and the fact is that West Ham, even with just one man up, should really have taken the lead in that first half.

Hartson and Berkovic played Lomas clean through Chelsea's spreadeagled defence late in the first half. Lomas had made his run well, but he is no great finisher and his shot was saved by De Goey.

"I thought at half-time that we were in control of the game," Redknapp said. "I don't think they caused us any problems." But, he admitted, the first goal was a turning point.

"Rio Ferdinand didn't deal with it well in the first place," Redknapp said. And Ferdinand it was who, however unfortunately, deflected the ball into his own net 12 minutes into that second half. Once again, Di Matteo had run powerfully down the right. At the near post, Zola closed in on his cross and Ferdinand, lunging in, could do no more than beat his own goalkeeper. Subsequently, served reciprocally by Zola, Di Matteo would hit the post.

When West Ham did at last score, after 40 minutes of the second half, it was from a penalty that need hardly have been given away. It emphasised the value of Sammassi, who twisted past a somewhat clumsy Myers to be brought down just inside the penalty box. Hartson scored from the spot, though De Goey got his hands to the ball.

In the hectic closing minutes, it was Chelsea rather than West Ham who threatened to score again. After another of Di Matteo's elegant runs, Zola was clear, but Forrest came fast off his line to make an excellent save. A few minutes later, inspired work by Zola gave Nicholls the chance of a narrow, angled shot, but Forrest parried that, too.

For Chelsea, the sight of the unfortunate Leboeuf being carried off on a stretcher in injury time was a distressing one. He had just given away a free kick on the edge of the box, fouling Berkovic, but West Ham have no Zola and the ball was blazed by Berkovic over the bar.

At one point, Berkovic appeared to slap his team-mate, Moncur, who had apparently rebuked him for not getting back to challenge. Redknapp said it would be dealt with "internally". "It's not something I want to see," he said. "Controlled aggression. You can't see players pushing and shoving each other on the field. That's not on."

CHELSEA (3-5-2): E De Goey — F Sinclair, F Leboeuf (sub: R Gullit, 90min), A Myers — R Di Matteo, E Newton, D Wise, D Petrescu (sub: M Nicholls, 35), C Babayaro — G Zola, M Hughes
WEST HAM UNITED (3-6-1): C Forrest — R Ferdinand, I Pearce, D Unsworth (sub: S Potts, 46) — A Impey, S Lomas, F Lampard, E Berkovic, J Moncur (sub: A Sammassi, 68); K Rowland — J Hartson.
Referee: G Barber.

Zola celebrates after scoring Chelsea's second goal against West Ham United at Stamford Bridge

Russell Kempson

LEICESTER CITY
v
WIMBLEDON
Today, 8.0

Tighten your seatbelts and batten down the hatches. Leicester City, christened the "new Wimbledon", and Wimbledon, the real McCoy, face each other across the trenches at Filbert Street tonight. When brute force meets the immovable object, there are few survivors.

A simplistic view, perhaps, but the sides have justifiably earned pugnacious reputations — Leicester more recently — and know not the meaning of defeat.

Martin O'Neill, the Leicester manager, has to choose between Kasey Keller or the gloriously named Pegguy Arphexad in goal. Keller might be a tad tired after his World Cup exertions for the United States yesterday and the return flight.

Steve Walsh, the Leicester captain, is likely to return from a rib injury sooner than expected, but O'Neill is unlikely to have enlisted the services of Georgi Kinkladze, the Georgia and Manchester City winger, by this evening. "I have made a number of phone calls and there have been some developments," he said cryptically.

Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, will be without two of his more influential warriors. Efan Ekoku, the striker, is sidelined with ligament damage, while Robbie Earle could not get back in time from El Salvador, where he was playing for Jamaica yesterday.

LEICESTER CITY (probable, 3-5-2): P Arphexad — S Prior, M Elliott, S Walsh — P Kaamark, G Parker, N Lennon, M Izzet, S Guppy — I Marshall, E Heskey.
WIMBLEDON (probable, 4-4-2): N Sullivan — C Perry, D Blackwell, B Thatcher — K Cunningham, V Jones, C Hughes, M Hughes, A Clarke — C Cort, M Gayle

■ TELEVISON: Today: Live on Sky Sports 1, from 7.0pm
■ PREDICTION: Leicester win the war

Francis finds no solace in sympathy vote

LIVERPOOL 4
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR 0

By David Maddock

IF sympathy won points, Tottenham Hotspur would be top of the FA Carling Premiership. Never can a sentence beginning "I feel sorry for" have been uttered so often in one press box on a single afternoon, after the London club again wandered aimlessly towards defeat at Anfield.

Unfortunately for Gerry Francis, the subject of all that surprising compassion, there is little sentiment on football terraces. If the media, for once, was generous, then the travelling Tottenham supporters were more realistic. Their comment on their manager's plight was a pithy chant of "Bye-bye Gerry".

Supporters want their generals to be lucky. Francis has undoubtedly suffered some atrocious bad luck during his three-year tenure at White Hart Lane, but how long can a manager go on using injuries as an excuse? The fans might not understand football, they might not have kicked a ball in anger, but they pay their money and take their choice.

Francis understands this. He spoke openly of considering his future after this latest setback and he thinks deeply enough to accept that there is no need in life to endure such levels of self-inflicted pressure.

"There are thousands of fans who follow Spurs around the country and they are not getting what they deserve," he said. "It is not in my nature to walk away from anything, but I will have to talk to Alan Sugar over the next week or two and see where we are going."

The sympathy for Francis is understandable. His side was well organised and efficient in the first half against Liverpool, but fell apart after a goal on 48 minutes by Steve McManaman. Tottenham were quaking throughout the second period, a side devoid of confidence, apart from the splendidly arrogant but isolated Ginola.

Alan Sugar, the Tottenham chairman, was a strangely impassive figure as he watched from the directors' box. Subsequently, he even took the trouble to ring a television programme to suggest that not only was Francis safe, but he would not even accept the manager's resignation.

"It is Gerry's call, but he has to take a professional view," he said. "He must think about what is good for this club and I would say to all our supporters that a rudderless boat will end up crashing on the rocks. We should wait until the end of the season before making a decision."

Sugar is a pragmatic man and he will not be able to sign a quality replacement until the end of the season, thus his reluctance to allow a clearly wavering Francis to lean on his sword. To a lesser extent, he might examine, too, the fortunes of Roy Evans. Less than a month ago, the Liverpool manager was considered to be even more vulnerable than Francis, but there are signs that Evans is on the verge of some considerably better times at Anfield.

Liverpool have now won their past five home matches in the league since an opening defeat by Leicester City. Last season, it was their home form that ultimately cost them the title. Evans has crafted a side that finally appears to have found its feet. They struggled early in the season as new players bedded in and the manager tinkered with too many defensive combinations. Now, at last, he has a back four with the pace to compensate for a certain lack of presence.

It showed in the first half when Matteo and Jones each got back to deny Scales and Iversen chances to give Spurs a deserved lead. James too, played his part by saving bravely at the feet of Ginola. With a steadier platform to build on, Liverpool were allowed the opportunity to run away with the game in the second half.

McManaman started it by tapping in after Walker failed to hold a Redknapp shot. Then, after Leonhardsen and Redknapp had increased the lead, Owen scored his first goal in front of the home supporters. It may have been a goal too far for Francis, if not for Sugar.

LIVERPOOL (4-4-2): D James — R Jones (sub: J McAteer, 87min), B T Kvarme, D Matteo, S I Bjornebye — S McManaman (sub: P Berger, 87), J Redknapp, P Ince, O Leonhardsen — R Fowler, K Riedle
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (5-3-2): I Walker — S Carr, J Scales, C Calderwood (sub: A Sinton, 68), S Campbell, J Edinburgh — D Anderton (sub: J Dominguez, 68), D Howells, D Ginola — R Allen (sub: C Armstrong, 13), S Iverson.
Referee: S Lodge

Francis: considering future

Evergreen Southall left defenceless

BLACKBURN ROVERS 3
EVERTON 2

By Nick Szczepanik

SO HOW, exactly, does the victorious manager console the loser, especially when his side, trailing for most of the match, has snatched the points, however deservedly, in the final few minutes?

"I never try," Roy Hodgson, the Blackburn Rovers manager, said after two late goals had lifted his team to second place in the FA Carling Premiership and deprived Howard Kendall of his first away win since returning to Goodison in the summer, and Everton's first since December. "What is there to say? He must be shattered at seeing his team do well yet come away with zero points and, of course, we're delighted; and it's a very dangerous moment to start talking about the fine points of the game.

"All I could say to Howard was: 'Bad luck, you did well, keep going because you've got a good side and you'll get a lot of points.'"

"It's not bad luck if you concede three goals the way we did," Kendall said, although Neville Southall, the Everton goalkeeper, might beg to differ. He had made at least three outstanding saves and, on each occasion, Blackburn scored anyway. Why, he must have wondered, had he bothered?

"He did fantastically well," Hodgson said. "He showed, at approaching 40 years of age, that he's not lost anything of his talent. He did everything right." This despite a foot injury aggravated by the insistence of his team-mates on passing back to him, forcing him to kick clear. He was left limping and has withdrawn from the Wales squad to face Brazil this week. "Small things like that disappoint you," Kendall said.

Larger things too: his team's failure to defend leads, for instance, the first given them after only five minutes when Gary Speed's shot from 18 yards was deflected past Flowers. Ferguson could have doubled the advantage before Southall saved Flitcroft's 35th-minute header at full stretch; from the resulting corner, Gallacher touched in Croft's shot.

Ferguson restored Everton's lead from Oster's cross, but Blackburn refused to panic; instead, it was Everton who lost their nerve.

"We didn't keep the ball long enough; we invited pressure," Kendall said. "We talked about the quality crosses they are capable of putting in; we didn't stop that."

From one of those crosses, Sutton's header brought a save from Southall that defied belief: the ball seemed past him when he clawed it away and he deserved better than to see the rebound fall to Damien Duff, who rammed home his first league goal.

Everton's misery was complete when Southall's double save led to Ripley's corner, headed in unchallenged by Sherwood. "We got the result we deserved," Hodgson said. "It was the result of a very good afternoon's work against a very dogged and determined Everton side, who will consider themselves unlucky. I would have been very satisfied with our performance even had we not won."

Easy to say when you have won, of course, although his praise for Everton drew only a faint echo from Kendall. "There is some improvement, believe it or not," Kendall said. "The lads wanted to win for Everton football club." But are there other players, currently in other dressing rooms, who could actually deliver the goods?

BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T Flowers — J Kenna, T Pedersen, S Henchoz, G Croft (sub: J Wilcox, 80min) — S Ripley, T Sherwood, W McKinlay, G Flitcroft (sub: D Duff, 74) — C Sutton, K Gallacher.
EVERTON (4-4-2): N Southall — E Barrett, C Short, S Bilic, A Hinchcliffe — G Stuart (sub: M Branch, 84), D Williamson (sub: G Farrelly, 77), G Speed, T Phelan — D Cadamarteri (sub: J Oster, 45), D Ferguson.
Referee: P Alcock.

Dublin pantomime season starts early

COVENTRY CITY 2
NEWCASTLE UNITED 2

By Peter Robinson

MOST people missed it. Some were still leafing through the programme, gazing at pretty pictures of Coventry City's intended new stadium — retractable roof, retractable pitch et al, very high-tech — others were finishing cups of tea, chatting to neighbours or looking upfield, trying to establish whether John Barnes really was playing at centre forward. Then there was a roar, some Geordie voices bellowed "Behind you" in best panto fashion and there was Dion Dublin jumping up and down, jubilating, as goalscorers do.

For a few moments, confusion reigned. Several thousand voices asked "What happened there?" and Paul Durkin, the referee, trotted over to consult one of his linesmen. In front of the two of them, arms outstretched, as if pleading "Please, please, I didn't do anything wrong, come on, have a heart", stood Shay Given, the Newcastle United goalkeeper.

Given was out of luck. There was lots of nodding, Durkin blew his whistle again. Coventry City had taken the most unlikely lead of the season and there were mental notes being made left, right and centre to set the video for Match of the Day.

If anything, the goal looked even worse on television than it had at the time. Dublin and Peacock had chased a cross from the right. Given had caught it, no problem, and Dublin had charged on, coming to a halt against an advertising hoarding. Somehow, Dublin's existence slipped Given's mind, he rolled the ball along the floor, stopped, looked up and pondered where to kick it. Dublin sauntered back on to the pitch, trotted past a frozen goalkeeper and tapped the ball into the net. Thank you very much, 1-0, after three minutes. Everything else in the match paled into insignificance.

Should the goal have stood? "His [Dublin's] momentum took him off the pitch and that is why he was allowed to come back on without needing my permission," Durkin said. "If you needed permission to come back on every time a player went off the field, through a sliding tackle or through his momentum, then there would be people waiting to come back on all over the place." Which would be fascinating, if you think about it, and the referee had made his point.

Dublin called it "the most bizarre goal I have ever scored" and Kenny Dalglish, the Newcastle manager thought it should have been disallowed, but his players took it in good grace and Given is unlikely to make the same mistake again. Anyway, Newcastle recovered to draw; had they lost 1-0, they may have moaned more.

Instead, they went home relatively happy, the gamble — for it was surely that, despite protestations from Dalglish — of playing Barnes as an orthodox striker having paid off. As one wise old hand pointed out, there were spectators on Saturday who had not been born when Barnes took the role on a regular basis for Watford all those years ago. He remembered enough to score their equaliser on the half-hour, punishing a rare mistake by Ogrizovic.

Dublin claimed his second on 82 minutes, courtesy of another Given slip, spilling a shot from Williams, but Lee, with a screamer from 35 yards — "I knew it was going in as soon as I struck it" — saved a point and some pride with time running out. Honours even.

COVENTRY CITY (4-4-2): S Ogrizovic — R Nilsson, R Shaw, G Breen, D Burrows — P Telfer, P Williams, G McAllister, M Hall — D Huckerby (sub: S Howarth, 72min), D Dublin.
NEWCASTLE UNITED (4-3-3): S Given — S Watson, D Peacock, P Albert, A Pistone — R Lee, D Batty (sub: W Barton, 29), J Beresford — K Gillespie, J Barnes, T Ketsbaia.
Referee: P Durkin.

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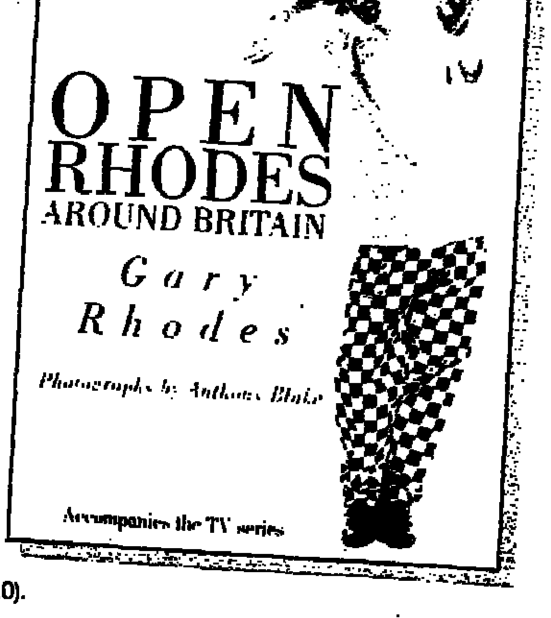

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CHANGING TIMES

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FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

BLACKBURN (1) 3	EVERTON (1) 2
Gallacher 37	Speed 7
Duff 81	Ferguson 55
Sherwood 84	25,393

Blackburn Rovers: T Flowers, J Kenna, T Sherwood, P Pedersen, S Ripley, K Gallacher, C Sutton, G Flitcroft (sub: D Duff, 73min), B McKinlay, G Croft (sub: J Wilcox, 79min), S Henchoz.

Booked: Wilcox.

Everton: N Southall, E Barrett, A Hinchcliffe, A Williamson (sub: G Farrelly, 76min), T Phelan, G Stuart (sub: M Branch, 84min), D Ferguson, G Speed, C Short, S Bilic, D Cadamarteri (sub: J Oster, 45min).

Booked: Bilic, Phelan.

Referee: P E Alcock.

COVENTRY (1) 2	NEWCASTLE (1) 2
Dublin 4, 82	Barnes 31
22,679	Lee 87

Coventry City: S Ogrizovic, R Shaw, D Burrows, P Williams, G Breen, D Hockaday (sub: S Haworth, 72min), D Dublin, G McAllister, P Telfer, M Hall, R Nilsson.

Booked: Hall, Williams.

Newcastle United: S Given, J Beresford, D Batty (sub: W Barton, 30min), G Peacock, R Lee, J Barnes, T Ketsbaia, K Gillespie, S Watson, A Pistone, P Albert.

Booked: Albert.

Referee: P A Durkin.

C PALACE (1) 1	A VILLA (0) 1
Shipperley 42	Joachim 86
21,097	

Sent off: J Smith (C Palace) 77

Crystal Palace: K Miller, M Edworthy, D Gordon, A Roberts, A Linighan, A Lombardo, N Shipperley, B Dyer (sub: N Emblen, 77min), S Rodger, D Smith, H Hreidarsson.

Booked: Smith, Gordon, Edworthy

Aston Villa: M Bosnich, G Charles (sub: J Joachim, 73min), S Staunton, G Southgate, I Taylor, S Milosevic, D Yorke, F Nelson, S Grayson, R Scimeca, A Wright.

Booked: Charles, Taylor, Milosevic, Yorke

Referee: J T Winter.

LEEDS (2) 4	DERBY (3) 3
Wallace 37	Sturridge 4, 11
Kewell 40	Asanovic 33 (pen)
Floyd Hasselbaink 82 (pen)	33,572
Bowyer 90	

Leeds United: N Martyn, A Maybury (sub: L Bowyer, 45min), D Wetherall, L Radebe, J Robertson, G Kelly, A I Haaland, D Hopkin (sub: J Hasselbaink, 77min), F Ribeiro, D Wallace, H Kewell.

Booked: Robertson, Haaland

Derby County: M Poom, C Daily, J Laursen, M Carbon (sub: R Kozluk, 52min), G Rowett, D Powell (sub: J Hunt, 85min), L Carsley, C Powell, A Asanovic (sub: P Trollope, 83min), D Sturridge, F Baiano

Booked: Carbon, C. Powell.

Referee: N S Barry.

LIVERPOOL (0) 4	TOTTENHAM (0) 0
McManaman 48	38,006
Leonhardsen 50	

Liverpool: D James, R Jones (sub: J McAteer, 87min), B T Kvarme, S McManaman (sub: P Berger, 87min), O Leonhardsen, R Fowler, J Redknapp, K Riedle (sub: M Owen, 75min), P Ince, S Bjornebye, D Matteo

Tottenham Hotspur: I Walker, J Edinburgh, D Howells, C Calderwood (sub: J Dominguez, 68min), D Anderton (sub: A Sinton, 68min), S Carr, D Ginola, J Scales, S Iversen, R Allen (sub: C Armstrong, 14min), S Campbell.

Booked: Ginola.

Referee: S Lodge

SHEFF WED (5) 5	BOLTON (0) 0
Di Canio 20	25,027
Whittingham 26	
Booth 29, 33, 44	

Sheffield Wednesday: K Pressman, P Atherton (sub: G Hyde, 69min), I Nolan, M Pembridge, J Newsome, D Walker, G Whittingham, A Booth (sub: O Donaldson, 60min), P Di Canio (sub: P Blondeau, 80min), J Magilton, P Rudi.

Booked: Di Canio, Atherton, Newsome, Pembridge.

Bolton Wanderers: K Branagan, P Frandsen (sub: A Todd, 34min), J Pollock, N Blake, A Thompson, G Bergsson, J Phillips (sub: F Carr, 34min), M Fish, M Whitlow, D Holdsworth, A Gunnlaugsson.

Booked: Phillips, Thompson, Holdsworth.

Referee: M D Reed

SOUTHAMPTON (3) 4	BARNSLEY (1) 1
Le Tissier 3 (pen)	Bosancic 37 (pen)
Palmer 5	15,018
Davies 35	
Hirst 54	

Southampton: P Jones, J Dodd, F Benali, C Palmer, K Monkou, C Lundekvam, M Le Tissier (sub: S Basham, 82min), M Oakley, D Hirst (sub: R Slater, 82min), K Davies, K Richardson.

Booked: Monkou, Le Tissier.

Barnsley: D Watson, N Eaden, A Moses, A De Zeeuw, P Shirtliff (sub: D Sheridan, 45min), A Liddell, M Bullock, J Bosancic, J Hendrie (sub: L Ten Heuvel, 56min), E Tinkler, A Krizan (sub: D Barnard, 62min).

Booked: Moses, De Zeeuw, Tinkler, Bosancic.

Referee: G R Ashby.

Yesterday

ARSENAL (2) 3	MAN UTD (2) 2
Anelka 7	Sheringham 33, 41
Vieira 27	38,205
Platt 83	

Arsenal: D Seaman, L Dixon, N Winterburn, P Vieira (sub: S Bould, 45min), A Adams, D Platt, I Wright, N Anelka (sub: C Wreh, 79min), M Overmars, R Parlour, G Grimandi.

Booked: Platt, Wright

Manchester United: P Schmeichel, G Neville, G Pallister (sub: R Johnsen, 38min), D Beckham, N Butt, A Cole, E Sheringham, R Giggs (sub: O Solskjaer, 71min), P Neville, P Scholes, H Berg

Booked: P. Neville, Scholes.

Referee: M J Bodenham.

CHELSEA (0) 2	WEST HAM (0) 1
Ferdinand 57 (og)	Hartson 85 (pen)
Zola 83	34,382

Chelsea: E De Goey, D Petrescu (sub: M Nicholls, 35min), C Babayaro, F Leboeuf (sub: R Gullit, 90min), M Hughes, D Wise, R Di Matteo, A Myers, F Sinclair, E Newton, G Zola.

Booked: Hughes, Leboeuf

West Ham United: C Forrest, K Rowland, D Unsworth (sub: S Potts, 45min), I Pearce, R Ferdinand, S Lomas, F Lampard, E Berkovic, J Hartson, J Moncur (sub: S Abou, 67min), A Impey.

Booked: Rowland, Pearce, Abou.

Referee: G P Barber.

Nationwide FOOTBALL LEAGUE

FIRST DIVISION

BIRMINGHAM (1) 1	NORWICH (2) 2
Devlin 27 (pen)	Forbes 23, 36
16,464	

BURY (0) 0	PORTSMTH (0) 2
5,065	Aloisi 53
	Durnin 90

CREWE (2) 2	OXFORD UTD (1) 1
Westwood 31	Ford 14
Anthrobus 41	4,524

MIDDLESBRO (2) 3	QPR (0) 0
Beck 22	30,057
Merson 37	
Ormerod 90	

READING (1) 1	STOCKPORT (0) 0
Morley 42 (pen)	7,444

STOKE (2) 3	WOLVRHMPTN (0) 0
Kavanagh 8, 23 (pen)	18,490
Forsyth 60	

SUNDERLAND (1) 1	NOTTM F (1) 1
Phillips 2	Olav Hjelde 25
33,160	

SWINDON (1) 1	BRADFORD (0) 0
Cowe 24	10,029

TRANMERE (0) 1	PORT VALE (1) 2
Irons 51	Naylor 14, 67
7,063	

WEST BROM (1) 1	CHARLTON (0) 0
Hunt 34	16,124

Yesterday

IPSWICH (0) 2	SHEFF UTD (1) 2
Legg 50	Taylor 9
Gregory 87	Ward 79
9,695	

FRIDAY'S LATE RESULT: Manchester City 0 Huddersfield 1

SECOND DIVISION

BLACKPOOL (1) 2	BURNLEY (1) 1
Clarkson 41	Creaney 14
Preece 74	7,429

BRENTFORD (0) 1	BRISTOL CITY (2) 4
Reina 64	Torpey 31
6,183	Doherty 32, 77
	Goater 67

BRISTOL R (0) 2	FULHAM (1) 3
Penrice 61, 78	Carpenter 37
6,166	Scott 83, 89

CHESTRFLD (0) 1	GRIMSBY (0) 0
Reeves 77	5,004

LUTON (1) 1	PRESTON (2) 3
Thorpe 25	Lormor 16
5,757	Eyres 45
	Ashcroft 90

MILLWALL (1) 1	CARLISLE (0) 1
Law 2	Jansen 85
6,939	

OLDHAM (-) -	GILLINGHAM (-) -

PLYMOUTH (2) 3	BOURNEMTH (0) 0
Jean 10	5,067
Littlejohn 15, 85	

SOUTHEND (0) 1	WIGAN (0) 0
Boere 71	2,716

WALSALL (0) 0	WATFORD (0) 0
5,777	

WREXHAM (0) 1	NORTHMPTN (0) 0
Roberts 48	3,766

YORK (1) 2	WYCOMBE (0) 0
Barras 45 (pen)	3,343
Rowe 55	

FRIDAY'S LATE RESULT: Oldham 2 Gillingham 1

THIRD DIVISION

BARNET (1) 1	DONCASTER (0) 1
Charlery 32	Warren 73
2,015	

BRIGHTON (0) 1	ROTHERHAM (1) 2
Storer 86	Richardson 3
1,930	Glover 49

CARDIFF (0) 1	TORQUAY (0) 1
[illegible] 79	McFarlane 51
2,737	

Sent off: C Middleton (Cardiff) 90

HULL (0) 1	SHRWSBURY (2) 4
[illegible] 76	Steele 17
4,753	White 45, 52
	Scott 69

L ORIENT (1) 1	CHESTER (0) 0
Smith 24	3,834

MACCLSFLD (2) 3	CAMBRIDGE U (0) 1
Gardiner 21	Campbell 60
Power 23, 88	2,337

MANSFIELD (2) 3	SCARBORO (2) 2
Peacock 30	Robinson 19
Whitehall 38	Mitchell 35
Harper 90	2,134

NOTTS CO (0) 1	EXETER (1) 1
Strodder 57	Rowbotham 3
5,107	

PETERBORO (1) 1	DARLINGTON (0) 1
Quinn 41	Roberts 49
6,207	

Sent off: D Farrell (Peterboro) 90
L Brydon (Darlington) 82
R Hope (Darlington) 90

ROCHDALE (1) 2	COLCHESTER (0) 1
Stuart 44	Duguid 50
Painter 63 (pen)	1,702

SCUNTHRPE (1) 1	HARTLPOOL (0) 1
Hope 32	Knowles 65
3,272	

SWANSEA (0) 0	LINCOLN (0) 0
2,871	

GOALSCORERS

FIRST DIVISION: 14: P Van Hooijdonk (Nottm Forest) 13: C Hay (Swindon), B Angell (Stockport) 10: C Mendonca (Charlton), D Kelly (Tranmere) 9: A Hunt (West Brom) 8: A Naylor (Port Vale), J Fjortoft (Sheff Utd); L Jones (Tranmere), S Bull (Wolverhampton), P Devlin (Birmingham), D Johnson (Bury); P Thorne (Stoke). 7: J Aloisi (Portsmouth); K Campbell (Nottm Forest).

SECOND DIVISION: 11: M Stallard (Wycombe), R Boli (Walsall). 10: S Goater (Bristol City), R Rowe (York), M Jansen (Carlisle); R Taylor (Brentford) 9: A Akinbiyi (Gillingham); S Barlow (Oldham); A Thorpe (Luton) 8: G Creaney (Burnley), B Hayles (Bristol Rovers); P Kennedy (Watford); A Lormor (Preston); P Peschisolido (Fulham) 7: A Ellis (Blackpool).

Includes all competitions

BELL'S LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

PREMIER DIVISION

HEARTS (1) 2	HIBERNIAN (0) 0
Robertson 17	16,739
Quitongo 88	

Hearts: G Rousset, G Locke, N Pointon, D Weir, S Salvatori, P Ritchie, N McCann, S Fulton, J Robertson (sub: J Quitongo, 69min), I Cameron, T Flogel (sub: J Hamilton, 80min).

Booked: Pointon.

Hibernian: O Gottskalksson, W Miller, J Boco, A Dods, J Hughes, J Chamley (sub: A Rougier, 79min), A Dow, Jackson (sub: B Lavety, 83min), S Crawford, K Harper (sub: B Lavety, 60min), P McGinlay

Booked: Boco, McGinlay.

Referee: M McCurry.

MOTHERWLL (0) 0	KILMARNCK (0) 1
5,346	Roberts 67 (pen)

Motherwell: S Woods, S Valakari, S McMillan, E Garcia (sub: J Hendry, 45min), S Craigan, G Denham, L McCulloch, W Davies (sub: E Shivute, 12min), T Coyne, S McSkimming, O Coyle

Booked: Craigan, McCulloch.

Kilmarnock: C Meldrum, J Lauchlan, G Holt, R Montgomerie, N Whitworth, M Reilly, P Nevin, A Mitchell, M Roberts (sub: J Henry, 89min), J Vareille, A Burke.

Booked: Montgomerie, Nevin, Vareille.

Referee: J Herald.

RANGERS (1) 1	CELTIC (0) 0
Gough 29	50,082

Sent off: S Mahe (Celtic) 81

Rangers: A Goram, S McCall, A Cleland, R Gough, S Porrini, J Bjorklund, J Thern, P Gascoigne (sub: J Albertz, 89min), M Negri, R Gattuso, B Laudrup (sub: G Durie, 83min).

Booked: Gough, Gascoigne, Gattuso.

Celtic: J Gould, T Boyd (sub: P Lambert, 73min), S Mahé, J McNamara, M Rieper, A Stubbs (sub: E Annoni, 16min), H Larsson, C Burley, S Donnelly, E Wieghorst, R Blinker (sub: Thom, 60min).

Booked: Mahé, Boyd, Larsson, Blinker, Burley.

Referee: K Clark.

ST JOHNSTN (0) 0	DUNFRLNE (1) 2
5,239	Smith 8
	Bingham 82

St Johnstone: A Main, J McQuillan, A Preston, P Kane, A Kernaghan, D Griffin, P Scott, J O'Neil (sub: K O'Halloran, 78min), R Grant, G O'Boyle, S Tosh (sub: L Jenkinson, 58min)

Dunfermline: I Westwater, G Shields, I Den Bieman, A Tod, D Barnett, H Curran, G Shaw (sub: S Petrie, 84min), S Duarte (sub: D Bingham, 72min), A Smith, H French, G Britton (sub: A Moore, 78min)

Referee: J Underhill

Yesterday

DUNDEE UTD (3) 5	ABERDEEN (0) 0
Olofsson 17, 63	7,883
Zetterlund 18	
McLaren 21	
Easton 87	

Sent off: D Windass (Aberdeen) 22

Dundee United: S Dykstra, M Skoldmark (sub: J Dolan, 71min), M Malpas, S Pressley, M Perry, E Pedersen, K Olofsson, L Zetterlund, R Winters (sub: G McSwegan, 82min), C Easton, A McLaren (sub: M Andersson, 78min).

Booked: Andersson.

Aberdeen: J Leighton, R Anderson, I Kiriakov, B O'Neil, A Kombouare, G Smith, D Rowson (sub: D Young, 45min), E Jess (sub: J Miller, 77min), D Windass, D Dodds (sub: P Gillies, 77min), S Glass

Booked: Kiriakov, Windass

Referee: S Dougal

FIRST DIVISION

AYR (0) 1	HAMILTON (2) 2
[illegible] 53	Sherry 12
2,093	Ritchie 19

FALKIRK (1) 3	STIRLING (1) 2
Crabbe 12, 88	Zahana-Oni 13, 56
James 62	2,437

G MORTON (2) 3	ST MIRREN (0) 0
Duffield 3, 47	4,013
Hawke 9	

Sent off: S McArthur (G Morton) 71

PARTICK (1) 1	AIRDRIE (0) 2
[illegible] 33	McPhee 48, 58 (pen)
3,107	

RAITH (0) 0	DUNDEE (0) 1
4,763	McInally 65

Sent off: D Fleming (Dundee) 59

SECOND DIVISION

BRECHIN (0) 2	STRANRAER (0) 2
Feroz 53	Campbell 71
McKellar 58	Trialist 90
327	

CLYDE (2) 3	EAST FIFE (0) 0
Carrigan 4	588
McStay 27	
Rice 73 (pen)	

Sent off: W McCulloch (East Fife) 90

CLYDEBANK (0) 1	FORFAR (0) 1
McWilliams 85 (pen)	Gray 66
360	

Sent off: S Murdoch (Clydebank) 28

INVERNESS CT (2) 4	STENHOUSEMUIR (0) 1
Thomson 37	Little 49
Wilson 44	1,669
Addicoat 71	
Stewart 82	

QUEEN OF SOUTH (1) 1	LIVINGSTON (0) 0
Eyre 44	1,210

THIRD DIVISION

ALBION (2) 2	ROSS CO (0) 0
Martin 5	508
Mitchell 18	

Sent off: G Wood (Ross Co) 64
D Adams (Ross Co) 53

ALLOA (1) 1	DUMBARTON (1) 2
McAneny 28	Grace 43
424	Sharpe 55

ARBROATH (2) 4	BERWICK (0) 1
Florence 36	Escalon 42
Grant 41	505
Burns 65	
Spence 84	

Sent off: M Smith (Berwick) 53

COWDNBTH (1) 3	MONTROSE (1) 1
Hunter 1	Higgins 30
McMillan 58	202
Winter 61 (pen)	

Sent off: D Larter (Montrose) 60

QUEEN'S PARK (0) 0	EAST STIRLING (1) 1
482	Barr 8

GOALSCORERS

PREMIER DIVISION: 20: M Negri (Rangers). 14: R Winters (Dundee Utd). 13: G McSwegan (Dundee Utd). 10: H Larsson (Celtic), A Smith (Dunfermline), S Donnelly (Celtic), K Olofsson (Dundee Utd). 8: T Coyne (Motherwell). 7: P Wright (Kilmarnock), A McCoist (Rangers).

OVERSEAS

SPANISH LEAGUE: Racing de Santander 1 Real Madrid 2; Atletico de Madrid 3 Compostela 1; Salamanca 0 Betis 0; Real Sociedad 2 Espanyol 0; Valencia 2 Zaragoza 1; Deportivo de La Coruna 0 Merida 1; Sporting de Gijon 1 Oviedo 2; Mallorca 4 Athletic de Bilbao 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barcelona	9	8	1	0	23	8	25
Real Madrid	10	6	3	1	16	5	21
Atlético Madrid	10	6	2	2	26	11	20
Real Sociedad	10	6	2	2	16	8	20
Mallorca	10	5	4	1	20	8	19
Espanyol	10	5	4	1	17	6	19
Celta Vigo	9	5	3	1	16	9	18
Athletic Bilbao	10	3	5	2	11	12	14
Oviedo	10	3	5	2	13	15	14
Real Betis	10	3	4	3	14	17	13
Zaragoza	10	2	5	3	16	18	11
Tenerife	9	3	2	4	10	15	11
Merida	10	3	2	5	8	15	11
Compostela	10	2	4	4	16	17	10
Racing Santander	10	3	1	6	12	17	10
Deportivo Corun	10	1	6	3	10	11	9
Valencia	10	2	2	6	9	14	8
Valladolid	9	1	2	6	6	19	5
Salamanca	10	1	2	7	4	16	5
Sporting Gijon	10	0	1	9	7	26	1

Not including last night's matches

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Atalanta 1 Inter Milan 2; Bari 1 AS Roma 3; Fiorentina 5 Lecce 0; Lazio 3 Sampdoria 0; AC Milan 2 Brescia 1; Parma 2 Empoli 0; Udinese 2 Piacenza 0; Vicenza 3 Bologna 2.

Leading positions

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Internazionale	8	7	1	0	20	8	22
Juventus	7	5	2	0	18	3	17
Parma	8	5	2	1	15	4	17
Roma	8	4	3	1	16	8	15
Lazio	8	4	2	2	13	8	14
Vicenza	8	4	2	2	12	12	14
Udinese	8	4	1	3	14	17	13
Fiorentina	8	3	2	3	15	10	11
Milan	8	3	2	3	10	8	11
Sampdoria	8	3	2	3	13	15	11

Not including last night's matches

GERMAN LEAGUE: Schalke 04 2 Karlsruhe 0; Cologne 2 Werder Bremen 0; Hertha Berlin 2 1860 Munich 0; Bayern Munich 1 Arminia Bielefeld 0; Hamburg SV 0 Bayer Leverkusen 1; Borussia Mönchengladbach 1 Borussia Dortmund 1; Kaiserslautern 4 Hansa Rostock 3; Wolfsburg 0 MSV Duisburg 2; VfL Bochum 0 VfB Stuttgart 2.

Leading positions

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Kaiserslautern	14	10	3	1	31	17	33
Bayern Munich	14	8	5	1	30	15	29
Schalke 04	14	7	4	3	16	12	25
VfB Stuttgart	14	6	4	4	28	18	22
Bayer Leverkusen	14	6	4	4	24	18	22
Hansa Rostock	14	6	3	5	24	19	21
MSV Duisburg	14	6	2	6	17	18	20
Hamburg SV	14	5	4	5	21	28	19
Bor Mgladbach	14	4	6	4	26	25	18
VfL Wolfsburg	14	5	2	7	17	22	17

Not including last night's matches

DUTCH LEAGUE: Sparta Rotterdam 0 Ajax Amsterdam 5; PSV Eindhoven 5 Ovidiu Stinga 6; RKC Waalwijk 3 Roda JC Kerkrade 3; Utrecht 2 Groningen 0; Volendam 0 Feyenoord 0; Vitesse Arnhem 4 Heerenveen 2

FRENCH LEAGUE: Bordeaux 0 Lyon 0; Metz 2 Guingamp 1; Rennes 2 Lens 3; Cannes 1 Montpellier 0; Auxerre 0 Le Havre 0; Bastia 2 Strasbourg 0; Chateauroux 2 Toulouse 1.

PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Porto 1 Sporting Lisbon 1; Maritimo 1 Farense 1; Belenenses 0 Boavista 0; Campomaiorense 2 Setubal 1; Leca 1 Academica 0; Amadora 1 Rio Ave 2; Salgueiros 2 Chaves 0; Varzim 1 Braga 0

BELGIAN LEAGUE: Charleroi 2 FC Brugge 2; Standard Liege 0 Harelbeke 1; Mouscron 0 Westerlo 2; Lokeren 0 St Truiden 2; Anderlecht 3 Eendracht Aalst 1; Lierse 2 Antwerp 1; Genk 3 Beveren 0; AA Gent 3 RWD Molenbeek 4; Germinal Ekeren 1 Lommel 0.

WORLD CUP: Asia zone: Group B: Japan 5 Kazakhstan 1 (in Tokyo); United Arab Emirates 1 South Korea 3.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
South Korea	8	6	1	1	19	7	19
Japan	8	3	4	1	17	9	13
UAE	8	2	3	3	9	12	9
Uzbekistan	8	1	3	4	13	18	6
Kazakhstan	8	1	3	4	7	19	6

Pierluigi Casiraghi, of Lazio, attempts an overhead kick but collides with Omar Dieng, of Sampdoria, in their Italian League match which Lazio won 3-0

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE

DOVER (1) 1	HAYES (0) 0
Adams 35	889

Sent off: S Munday (Dover) 65

GATESHEAD (2) 2	HEDNESFORD (2) 5
Harkus 5	Beeston 13
Robinson 24	Fitzpatrick 36, 73
621	O'Connor 61, 63

HALIFAX (0) 2	KIDDRMNSTR (0) 1
Paterson 52	Willetts 48
Kielty 77	1,799

Sent off: K O'Regan (Halifax) 88

HEREFORD (1) 1	YEOVIL (1) 1
Milner 30	Parmenter 45 (pen)
2,768	

KETTERING (1) 1	MORECAMBE (0) 1
Pearson 27	Norman 49
1,156	

LEEK (1) 2	STEVENAGE (0) 1
McAuley 45	Smith 74
Biggins 76	687

Sent off: N Trebble (Stevenage) 88

NORTHWICH (3) 3	FARNBOROUGH (3) 3
Cooke 11, 31	Rowlands 3
Stallard 35	Wingfield 14
862	Laidlaw 22

SLOUGH (0) 1	CHELTENHAM (2) 2
Bolt 47	Howells 33
1,037	Watkins 45

TELFORD (2) 2	SOUTHPORT (1) 2
Ashley 10	Ryan 33
Gray 24	Milton 72
706	

WELLING (0) 0	RUSHDEN & D (1) 1
833	Underwood 19

WOKING (1) 3	STALYBRIDGE (0) 1
Hay 45, 71	Trundle 53 (pen)
Belsy 80	2,829

	HOME						AWAY					
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Hednesford	17	7	2	0	14	5	3	3	2	15	15	35
Halifax	14	7	0	0	21	4	3	3	1	9	8	33
Cheltenham	15	5	2	0	16	7	4	2	2	12	10	31
Woking	17	5	2	1	17	8	3	4	2	11	9	30
Morecambe	15	3	3	2	15	16	5	2	0	18	5	29
Southport	15	4	1	2	14	9	3	3	2	13	10	25
Hayes	16	4	1	3	13	9	3	2	3	12	8	24
Hereford	16	3	3	2	13	11	3	3	2	12	8	24
Rushden	15	3	2	2	12	11	4	0	4	9	12	23
Dover	15	4	1	3	10	11	2	1	4	10	17	20
Slough	14	1	2	4	12	14	4	2	1	11	7	19
Stevenage	17	2	4	2	10	11	2	3	4	10	13	19
Farnborough	16	3	1	4	7	10	2	2	4	12	18	18
Northwich	15	1	6	0	10	9	1	4	3	10	14	16
Kiddrmnstr	16	2	3	3	9	10	2	1	5	9	12	16
Leek	16	3	2	3	12	9	1	2	5	9	19	16
Welling	14	2	2	3	9	12	2	1	4	9	13	15
Telford	15	1	3	3	7	11	2	3	3	10	13	15
Yeovil	12	3	1	2	9	7	1	1	4	7	10	14
Stalybridge	14	3	2	2	14	11	1	0	6	4	13	14
Gateshead	15	1	2	6	9	19	0	3	3	9	18	8
Kettering	13	0	3	4	7	12	0	3	3	5	10	6

NON-LEAGUE AND NATIONAL LEAGUES

UNIBOND

PREMIER DIVISION: Bamber Bridge 3 Frickley 0; Blyth Spartans 3 Colwyn Bay 1; Boston 0 Barrow 2; Chorley 1 Bishop Auckland 0; Guiseley 2 Altrincham 2; Hyde 1 Accrington Stanley 1; Lancaster 2 Emley 2; Marine 3 Runcorn 2.

Leading positions

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Barrow	18	12	4	2	32	11	40
Boston Utd	18	7	8	3	23	17	29
Winsford Utd	11	8	2	1	18	6	26
Altrincham	17	7	3	7	30	19	24
Runcorn	16	7	3	6	30	25	24
Bishop Auck	16	6	6	4	27	23	24
Spennymoor	14	7	3	4	19	18	24
Colwyn Bay	17	7	3	7	24	29	24
Gainsboro	13	7	2	4	21	14	23
Guiseley	17	5	8	4	25	24	23
Lancaster	18	6	4	8	23	34	22
Frickley	15	5	5	5	16	15	20
Hyde Utd	13	5	4	4	19	16	19
Emley	15	5	4	6	27	26	19
Accrington S	18	4	6	8	21	23	18
Marine	13	4	5	4	17	17	17

FIRST DIVISION: Ashton 1 Gretna 4; Congleton 2 Stocksbridge PS 2; Eastwood Town 2 Droylsden 2; Farsley Celtic 5 Trafford 2; Radcliffe 0 Netherfield 0; Whitley Bay 3 Buxton 1

DR MARTENS

PREMIER DIVISION: Gloucester 1 Halesowen 0; Gresley 2 Atherstone 0; King's Lynn 3 Bath 1; Merthyr 1 Nuneaton 3; Salisbury 0 Burton 2; Sittingbourne 2 Bromsgrove 0; St Leonards 0 Dorchester 2

Leading positions

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Merthyr	16	11	3	2	23	11	36
Forest Green	15	9	3	3	38	22	30
Dorchester	15	8	5	2	24	12	29
Bath	15	7	5	3	27	22	26
Crawley Town	15	7	4	4	27	22	25
Kings Lynn	14	7	4	3	21	21	25
Nuneaton	14	7	3	4	38	19	24
Burton Albion	16	7	2	7	22	18	23
Bromsgrove	14	7	1	6	30	21	22
Atherstone	15	6	4	5	12	19	22
Halesowen	14	5	5	4	17	9	20
Hastings	15	5	4	6	27	27	19
Worcester C	13	6	1	6	15	16	19
Tamworth	14	5	3	6	28	25	18
Gloucester C	13	5	3	5	14	12	18
Rothwell T	14	4	6	4	22	30	18
Salisbury	14	5	2	7	20	27	17

MIDLAND DIVISION: Ilkeston 5 Paget 0; Shepshed Dynamo 1 Evesham 1; VS Rugby 2 Stafford 0. Southern division: Fareham 4 Yate 1; Fleet 0 Weymouth 2; Havant 1 Chelmsford 1; Newport AFC 2 Erith and Belvedere 1; Newport IOW 0 Clevedon 2; Trowbridge 1 Fisher 2

ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUE: First division: Bedlington Terriers 4 Jarrow Roofing 1; Billingham Town 3 Dunston Federation 1; Consett Billingham 2 Crook 2; Murton 1, Durham 0 Morpeth 2; Northallerton 1 RTM Newcastle 7; Seaham Red Star 1 Penrith 4; Shildon 2 Tow Law 1; South Shields A Easington A; Stockton 1 Guisborough 2

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Burnham Ramblers 2 Concord 3; East Ham 0 Basildon 3; Ilford 2 Bowers 2; Hullbridge Sports 3 Saffron Walden 0; Sawbridgeworth 4 Eton Manor 1; Stansted 5 Great Wakering 1; Southend Manor 1 Brentwood 3

ISTHMIAN

PREMIER DIVISION: Dulwich 2 Aylesbury 1; St Albans 0 Heybridge Swifts 3; Sutton United 1 Boreham Wood 2; Yeading 1 Kingstonian 3

Leading positions

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dag & Red	17	11	4	2	33	15	37
Sutton Utd	15	10	2	3	34	17	32
Boreham W	16	8	4	4	35	20	28
Kingstonian	14	7	5	2	27	15	26
Heybridge	13	8	1	4	29	18	25
Harrow Boro	13	7	1	5	18	18	22
Purfleet	14	6	4	4	17	17	22
Enfield	16	6	4	6	23	25	22

FIRST DIVISION: Croydon 3 Leatherhead 2; Hampton 2 Grays 2; Maidenhead United 3 Leyton Pennant 0; Wembley 2 Chertsey 2; Whyteleafe 4 Thame Utd 0. Second division: Braintree 4 Chalfont St Peter 1; Edgware 2 Wivenhoe 1; Egham 3 Wealdstone 5; Horsham 0 Met Police 2; Hungerford 0 Barking 2; Leighton 3 Cheshunt 2; Marlow 1 Canvey Island 3; Northwood 1 Windsor and Eton 4; Tilbury 3 Bracknell 4; Tooting and Mitcham 2 Banstead 0; Witham 1 Bedford Town 1. Third division: Aveley 1 Flackwell Heath 3; Camberley 1 Ford 2; Croydon 2 Kingsbury 1; Epsom and Ewell 6 Southall 0; Harlow 2 East Thurrock 0; Hornchurch 0 Hertford 4; Lewes 1 Corinthian Casuals 3; Tring 2 Dorking 0; Ware 2 Clapton 1; Wingate and Finchley 1 Hemel Hempstead 3

COURAGE COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ash 2 Viking Sports 0; Chessington and Hook 0 Ashford 1; Chipstead 0 Reading 4; Cranleigh 0 Bedfont 4; Farnham 4 Cobham 1; Hartley Wintney 3 Merstham 3; Walton Casuals 1 Raynes Park Vale 1. Postponed: Cove v Feltham; Netherne v Westfield

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Beckenham 1 Canterbury 0; Deal 2 Crockenhill 0; Folkestone Invicta 3 Faversham 1

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Burgess Hill 0 Ringmer 0; Chichester 2 Mile Oak 3; Horsham YMCA 1 Hailsham 3; Peacehaven and Telscombe 4 Arundel 1; Redhill 2 Hassocks 1; Shoreham 4 Portfield 0; Whitehawk 0 Eastbourne Town 2

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Backwell 0 Brislington 0; Bridgwater 1 Calne 1; Barnstaple 4 Westbury 2; Chard 1 Paulton 3; Keynsham 0 Bideford 2; Odd Down 2 Bristol Manor Farm 3.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES: League challenge cup: First round replay: Maghull 3 Nantwich 3. First division: Atherton LR 4 Darwen 1; Burscough 1 Maine Road 2; Castleton 3 Prescot Cables 5; Holker Old Boys 0 Glossop North End 1; Kidsgrove 3 Clitheroe 1; Mossley 5 Atherton Collieries 0; St Helens 3 Ramsbottom 2; Salford 3 Blackpool Rovers 4; Vauxhall GM 1 Chadderton 3; Newcastle Town 2 Rossendale 2.

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: Senior one: Nottsborough 3 Old Finchleians 7; St Marys College 0 Parkfield 2; Ulysses 4 City of London 0. Postponed: Witan v Hale End.

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Enfield O G 1 Old Tenisonians 4.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Carthusians 2 Foresters 4; Chigwellians 5 Haberdashers 2. First division: Hanovians 2 Haileyburians 8; Reptonians 2 Wykehamists 2

FA UMBRO TROPHY

SECOND QUALIFYING ROUND: Abingdon Town 2 Wokingham 0; Ashford 1 Raunds T 2; Baldock 1 Corby 2; Basingstoke 2 Witney 0; Berkhamsted 3 Worcester 2; Billericay 4 Forest Green 0; Bognor 2 Chesham 3; Bromley 2 Hendon 1; Cambridge City 1 Dartford 1; Carshalton 0 Aldershot Town 0; Cirencester Town 1 Gravesend and Northfleet 0; Crawley 1 Bishop's Stortford 2; Gainsborough 3 Bedworth 0; Harrow 5 Molesey 0; Hinckley Utd 3 Whitby 1; Hitchin 3 Barton Rovers 0; Lincoln United 1 Belper Town 2; Margate 3 Waterlooville 2; Matlock 4 Sutton Coldfield 1; Oxford City 0 Wisbech 2; Radcliffe 1 Leigh RMI 1; Redditch 1 Worksop 3; Romford 5 Rothwell 1; Solihull 9 Alfreton 1; Stourbridge 1 Great Harwood 1; Tamworth 4 Moor Green 3; Tonbridge 0 Hastings 3; Uxbridge 0 Worthing 1; Walton and Hersham 0 Bashley 0; Winsford 1 Spennymoor 0; Witton 0 Bilston 0; Workington 1 Harrogate Town 1.

BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Bloxwich 1 Boldmere? Hill 2; Bustleholme 2 Malvern 0; Cradley 5 Wolverhampton Casuals 1; Kington 3 Stafford 1; Ludlow 3 Ettingshall 1; Lye 2 Gornal 1; Stourport 2 Darlaston 2; Westfields 8 Tividale 2; Wolverhampton 1 Walsall Wood 1

INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE: Bloxwich Town 0 Kings Norton 1; Boldmere St M 0 Chasetown 3; Bridgnorth 1 Pelsall V 1; Halesowen H 2 Rushall O 1; Knypersley V 3 Oldbury U 2; Rocester 1 W Mid Police 0; Sandwell 3 Pershore T 2; Shifnal T 1 Willenhall 3; Stapenhill 0 Stratford T 1; Wednesfield 3 Barwell 4.

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Bolehall Community College 0 Highgate 0; Coleshill 3 Knowle 0; Coventry Sphinx 1 Continental Star 2; David Lloyd AFC 1 Kenilworth 0; Dudley Sports 1 Bolehall Swifts 2; G P T (Coventry) 4 Alvechurch 0; Kings Heath 1 Handrahan Timbers 3; Southam 4 Mile Oak? K A 1; Wellesbourne 0 Studley BKL 3; Worcester 2 Chestyr Hay 2.

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Buckingham 1 Cogenhoe 2; Eynesbury 1 Kempston 1; Ford Sports 1 S and L Corby 0; Holbeach 0 Desborough 1; N Spencer 2 Stotfold 3; Wootton 2 Long Buckby 4; Yaxley 1 W Borough 3.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Clacton 0 Soham 1; Ely 1 Fakenham 0; Felixstowe Port and 1 Great Yarmouth 3; Gorleston 2 Stowmarket 1; Halstead 2 Sudbury 2; Harwich and Parkeston 1 Diss 1; Histon 4 Tiptree 1; Newmarket 0 Lowestoft 0; Watton 0 Woodbridge 3; Wroxham 4 Bury Town 2.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Lymington 1 Bemerton Heath Harl 1; AFC Newbury 0 Totton & B.A.T. 0; Wimborne 6 Brockenhurst 0; Bournemouth 0; Cowes Sports 3 Andover 2; Eastleigh 0 Thatcham 0; Gosport 0 Downton 0; Portsmouth RN 1 Christchurch 3. Postponed: Ryde Sports v Whitchurch.

MINERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS: Premier division South: Islington 0 Cockfosters 0. Premier division cup: Amersham 0 Milton Keynes 2; Beaconsfield 0 Buckingham Athletic 1; Bedford 4 Biggleswade 0; St Margaretsbury 1 Waltham Abbey 3; Barkingside 0 Letchworth 2; Brimsdown 0 Royston 0; Brache Sparta 1 Toddington 2; Harpenden 0 Hillingdon 0; London Colney 2 Ruislip Manor 1; Brook House 1 Welwyn Garden 3; Hanwell 3 Hoddesdon 4; Arlesey 2 Haringey 0; Woodford 3 Potters Bar 5

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Arnold 1 Pickering 1; Brigg 1 Ossett Albion 3; Curzon Ashton 1 Pontefract Cols 3; Eccleshill 2 Armthorpe Welfare 0; Glasshoughton Welfare 7 Selby 0; Hatfield Main 1 Hucknall 7; Ossett Town 2 Thackley 1.

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: West Wickham 2 Crouch End Vampires 1; Norseman 4 Lloyds Bank 3; Midland Bank 0 Old Owens 1; Old Parkonians 2 Old Latymerians 1; Cuaco 3 Old Esthameians 0; Old Salesians 5 Nat West Bank 1; Kew Association 6 Merton 1; Old Westminster Ctz 2 Ibis 8; Alleyn OB 1 Bank of England 1; Old Bromleians 1 Southgate Olympic 0.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES: First division: Arsenal 1 Crystal Palace 0; Cambridge 3 Charlton 3; Fulham 2 Millwall 1; Norwich 1 Leyton Orient 1; Portsmouth 3 Southend 0; Tottenham Hotspur 1 Ipswich 5; Watford 0 Gillingham 2. Postponed: West Ham v Queens Park Rangers. Second division: Bournemouth 0 Brentford 2; Bristol Rovers 0 Bristol City 2; Colchester 3 Southampton 2; Reading 3 Tottenham Hotspur 0; Swindon 1 Oxford 3; Wimbledon 4 Barnet 1; Wycombe 3 Brighton 0

FA PREMIER YOUTH LEAGUE: Barnsley 0 Derby 2; Crystal Palace 1 QPR 0; Leeds 5 Coventry 0; Nottm Forest 0 Sheff Wed 2; Southampton 3 West Ham 1; Sunderland 1 Middlesbrough 2; Tottenham Hotspur 1 Arsenal 3; Wimbledon 1 Chelsea 1.

NATIONAL

LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth 2 Cemaes Ynys Mon 5; Barry 2 Connah's Quay 1; Caernarfon 1 Newtown 5; Carmarthen Town 3 Porthmadog 1; Conwy 1 Inter Cable-Tel 2; Cwmbran 2 Rhyl 0; Ebbw Vale 2 Bangor City 3; Flint Town 0 Rhayader Town 2; Total Network Solutions 2 Haverfordwest 2; Welshpool 0 Caersws 3.

PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Cove 4 Clachnacuddin 0; Forres Mechanics 0 Huntly 3; Lossiemouth 3 Deveronvale 3; Nairn County 3 Buckie Thistle 4; Rothes 5 Fort William 0; Wick Academy 3 Keith 5.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Ards 1 Glentoran 1; Coleraine 4 Crusaders 0; Glenavon 0 Cliftonville 0; Ballymena 1 Linfield 1; Omagh 1 Portadown 2. First division: Bangor 3 Carrick 2; Distillery 2 Newry 2; Larne 1 Ballyclare 1; Limavady 1 Dungannon Swifts 2

FAI HARP NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Derry City 4 Drogheda Utd 1; Kilkenny City 0 St Patricks Ath 2; Sligo Rovers 2 Finn Harps 2; Shamrock 1 Cork 3.

FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: National division: Berkhamsted Ladies 2 Doncaster Belles 9; Tranmere Rov Ladies 2 Bradford Ladies 1. Postponed: Croydon Ladies v Wembley Ladies.

FA WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Northern division: Aston Villa 0 Ilkeston 2; Bloxwich 0 Arnold 2; Blyth Spartans 1 Huddersfield 1; Garswood St Helens 1 Wolverhampton 1; Sheff Wed 6 Coventry 1. Southern division: Rushden and Diamonds 1 Ipswich 11. Postponed: Barry v Three Bridges; Langford v Leyton Orient; Southampton Saints v Brighton and Hove; Wimbledon v Whitehawk.

POOLS CHECK

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49
3	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	-	-	-	3	-	1	1	3	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	3	1	1	2	2
1	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	3	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	2	1	1	2	1	1	3	1	3	1	1	1	1	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3

FORECAST: Half-time: no claims required — winnings sent automatically — forecast is good, six score draws and ten no-score draws. Full-time: no claims required — forecast is good, nine score draws and one no-score draws.

CARLING F.A. PREMIERSHIP

	HOME						AWAY						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Man Utd	14	6	1	0	23	4	2	3	2	8	6	28	+21
2 Arsenal	14	5	2	0	18	3	2	4	1	12	12	27	+15
3 Blackburn	14	4	2	1	16	9	3	4	0	10	4	27	+13
4 Chelsea	13	4	0	1	10	6	4	1	3	19	10	25	+13
5 Leeds	14	3	1	3	10	10	4	1	2	10	6	23	+4
6 Liverpool	13	5	0	1	18	5	1	4	2	7	8	22	+12
7 Leicester	13	3	3	1	11	7	3	1	2	8	6	22	+6
8 Derby	13	4	2	0	14	4	2	0	5	11	15	20	+6
9 Newcastle	11	4	2	1	10	8	1	1	2	4	7	18	-1
10 Coventry	14	2	6	0	10	8	1	2	3	2	8	17	-4
11 Wimbledon	13	2	2	4	8	9	2	2	1	7	6	16	0
12 C Palace	13	0	3	3	4	9	4	1	2	9	6	16	-2
13 Southmptn	14	4	1	3	13	10	1	0	5	4	11	16	-4
14 West Ham	13	4	0	1	10	4	1	1	6	7	17	16	-4
15 A Villa	14	2	1	3	6	11	2	2	4	7	9	15	-7
16 Tottenham	14	3	2	2	7	7	0	2	5	4	14	13	-10
17 Everton	13	3	1	3	11	11	0	2	4	4	10	12	-6
18 Bolton	13	1	4	1	3	3	1	2	4	7	18	12	-11
19 Sheff Wed	14	3	1	3	13	12	0	2	5	10	23	12	-12
20 Barnsley	14	2	1	4	6	15	1	0	6	5	25	10	-29

Nationwide FOOTBALL LEAGUE

FIRST DIVISION

	HOME						AWAY						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
1 Swindon	17	7	2	0	17	6	3	2	3	6	12	34	(23)
2 Nottm F	16	6	1	1	17	7	3	3	2	8	7	31	(25)
3 West Brom	16	6	1	1	9	3	3	3	2	10	9	31	(19)
4 Sheff Utd	14	5	2	0	14	5	3	3	1	9	7	29	(23)
5 Middlesbro	15	5	1	2	15	7	3	3	1	12	7	28	(27)
6 Charlton	16	4	2	1	15	9	3	3	3	15	10	26	(30)
7 Port Vale	17	4	3	1	12	5	3	1	5	12	16	25	(28)
8 Wolvrhmptn	17	5	3	0	15	7	2	1	6	5	12	25	(20)
9 Stoke	16	4	2	2	12	8	3	2	3	7	9	25	(19)
10 Bradford	16	4	3	1	9	8	2	4	2	7	7	25	(16)
11 Stockport	17	4	4	0	14	7	2	1	6	11	16	23	(25)
12 Sunderland	16	3	4	2	12	8	3	1	3	9	11	23	(21)
13 QPR	16	4	2	1	10	6	2	2	5	10	20	22	(20)
14 Birmingham	17	3	3	3	8	5	2	4	2	10	9	22	(18)
15 Bury	17	3	4	2	9	9	1	3	4	10	16	19	(19)
16 Norwich	16	2	3	3	6	12	3	1	4	7	11	19	(13)
17 Crewe	17	2	2	5	10	14	3	1	4	10	12	18	(20)
18 Reading	17	3	2	4	14	14	1	4	3	3	11	18	(17)
19 Oxford Utd	17	3	2	3	9	9	1	2	6	10	16	16	(19)
20 Tranmere	16	4	1	3	14	10	0	2	6	8	14	15	(22)
21 Ipswich	15	3	2	2	10	9	0	4	4	5	11	15	(15)
22 Man City	16	2	3	4	13	10	1	2	4	6	10	14	(19)
23 Portsmth	16	2	2	4	11	13	1	3	4	8	11	14	(19)
24 Huddersfld	17	1	3	4	7	12	1	2	6	5	18	11	(12)

SECOND DIVISION

	HOME						AWAY						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
1 Watford	17	6	1	1	15	6	6	2	1	15	5	39	(30)
2 Bristol City	17	6	1	1	14	5	4	2	3	13	9	33	(27)
3 York	17	7	0	2	16	8	1	4	3	8	12	28	(24)
4 Millwall	16	4	3	2	15	11	4	1	2	8	5	28	(23)
5 Northmptn	17	5	2	1	10	6	2	5	2	8	6	28	(18)
6 Oldham	17	7	2	0	22	10	0	4	4	7	13	27	(29)
7 Wrexham	16	5	2	1	14	8	2	2	4	10	12	25	(24)
8 Gillingham	17	5	2	1	12	8	2	2	5	11	14	25	(23)
9 Chestrfld	17	5	3	1	13	8	1	4	3	5	8	25	(18)
10 Blackpool	17	5	3	1	17	12	2	0	6	9	17	24	(26)
11 Fulham	17	4	3	1	9	5	2	2	5	9	13	23	(18)
12 Preston	17	4	1	3	8	5	2	3	4	9	9	22	(17)
13 Bournemth	17	3	4	1	7	4	2	3	4	10	13	22	(17)
14 Bristol R	17	3	1	5	12	14	2	5	1	10	9	21	(22)
15 Grimsby	17	3	3	2	9	5	2	3	4	8	12	21	(17)
16 Wycombe	17	4	3	1	14	9	1	2	6	12	20	20	(26)
17 Wigan	17	4	3	1	17	12	1	1	7	6	15	19	(23)
18 Plymouth	17	3	4	2	16	12	1	3	4	6	12	19	(22)
19 Southend	17	4	3	2	8	8	1	0	7	8	26	18	(16)
20 Burnley	17	2	6	0	10	7	1	2	6	8	[illegible]	17	(18)
21 Walsall	17	4	4	1	12	5	0	1	7	6	18	17	(18)
22 Luton	17	3	1	5	12	18	1	4	3	5	9	17	(17)
23 Carlisle	17	2	2	4	7	12	2	2	5	14	18	16	(21)
24 Brentford	17	4	2	3	14	11	0	2	6	4	16	16	(18)

THIRD DIVISION

	HOME						AWAY						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
1 Peterboro	17	6	2	1	19	7	3	4	1	16	9	33	(35)
2 Notts Co	17	4	3	2	11	9	5	3	0	14	7	33	(25)
3 Exeter	17	3	4	1	10	7	5	2	2	15	11	30	(25)
4 Lincoln	17	4	3	1	10	7	4	3	2	7	6	30	(17)
5 Barnet	17	4	2	3	12	8	4	2	2	14	13	28	(26)
6 Chester	17	6	2	0	16	3	2	0	7	11	21	26	(27)
7 Macclsfld	17	6	3	0	17	6	0	5	3	5	9	26	(22)
8 Scunthrpe	16	4	4	1	12	8	3	1	3	9	11	26	(21)
9 Rotherham	17	4	3	1	16	11	2	4	3	11	13	25	(27)
10 Hartlpool	17	4	4	0	13	7	1	6	2	11	12	25	(24)
11 Scarboro	17	5	1	2	16	9	2	2	5	10	16	24	(26)
12 Colchester	17	4	3	1	14	10	2	3	4	11	14	24	(25)
13 Torquay	17	5	2	1	14	6	1	4	4	9	16	24	(23)
14 L Orient	17	4	2	3	9	8	2	3	3	9	9	23	(18)
15 Shrwsbury	17	5	0	3	12	9	1	4	4	13	15	22	(25)
16 Mansfield	17	4	3	2	19	14	2	1	5	5	8	22	(24)
17 Rochdale	17	6	1	2	16	5	0	1	7	5	17	20	(21)
18 Cambs Utd	17	3	3	2	15	13	1	4	4	9	12	19	(24)
19 Cardiff	16	1	5	2	8	10	2	5	1	8	7	19	(16)
20 Swansea	17	3	2	4	7	7	2	0	6	11	19	17	(18)
21 Darlington	17	3	4	1	15	10	0	3	6	6	17	16	(21)
22 Hull	17	3	3	3	17	18	1	0	7	5	15	15	(22)
23 Brighton	17	1	3	5	7	14	1	2	5	5	12	11	(12)
24 Doncaster	17	0	3	5	5	19	0	3	6	6	21	6	(11)

BELL'S LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

PREMIER DIVISION

	HOME						AWAY						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Hearts	12	4	0	1	12	5	5	0	2	16	8	27	+15
2 Rangers	11	5	2	0	25	8	3	0	1	10	5	26	+22
3 Celtic	11	3	0	1	9	2	5	0	2	12	7	24	+12
4 Dundee Utd	12	3	1	2	14	6	1	3	2	10	13	16	+5
5 St Johnstn	12	2	1	4	7	12	2	2	1	5	5	15	-5
6 Dunfrmline	12	1	3	2	8	11	3	0	3	9	17	15	-11
7 Kilmarnck	12	2	0	3	4	9	2	2	3	5	14	14	-14
8 Hibernian	12	3	1	3	16	12	0	2	3	3	8	12	-1
9 Aberdeen	12	1	2	3	6	10	1	1	4	6	16	9	-14
10 Motherwll	12	0	1	5	5	12	2	1	3	11	13	8	-9

FIRST DIVISION

	HOME						AWAY						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Hamilton	12	4	1	1	9	5	4	2	0	13	5	27	+12
2 Dundee	12	3	2	1	7	4	5	1	0	11	3	27	+11
3 Falkirk	11	4	1	1	11	9	2	1	2	9	12	20	-1
4 Raith	12	4	1	1	9	3	1	2	3	6	8	18	+4
5 Airdrie	12	2	3	1	6	6	2	3	1	6	4	18	+2
6 Ayr	11	2	1	3	8	9	1	2	2	5	5	12	-1
7 St Mirren	12	2	2	1	6	6	1	1	5	5	12	12	-7
8 G Morton	12	1	2	3	8	9	2	0	4	7	8	11	-2
9 Partick	12	1	1	4	10	15	0	4	2	4	7	8	-8
10 Stirling	12	0	3	3	5	9	1	1	4	9	13	7	-8

SECOND DIVISION

	HOME						AWAY						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Livingston	12	4	1	0	10	5	2	3	2	8	7	22	+6
2 Clydebank	12	3	3	1	12	5	2	3	0	5	2	21	+10
3 Stranraer	12	4	2	0	14	5	0	3	3	8	10	17	+7
4 Forfar	12	2	1	3	10	13	3	1	2	11	9	17	-1
5 East Fife	12	2	0	3	9	13	3	2	2	7	8	17	-5
6 Clyde	12	3	1	2	8	4	1	3	2	9	12	16	+1
7 Queen Of S	12	4	1	1	11	8	1	0	5	8	14	16	-3
8 Stenhsmuir	12	3	2	1	10	10	1	0	5	6	13	14	-7
9 Inverness CT.	12	1	4	2	8	7	1	1	3	11	10	11	+2
10 Brechin	12	1	3	2	6	9	1	2	3	8	13	11	-8

THIRD DIVISION

	HOME						AWAY						
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Ross Co	13	4	0	2	16	9	4	2	1	15	10	26	+12
2 Arbroath	12	4	1	1	14	6	4	0	2	14	8	25	+14
3 Albion	12	5	1	0	13	4	2	1	3	11	16	23	+4
4 Alloa	12	3	0	3	13	9	4	0	2	12	6	21	+10
5 East Stirling	12	4	0	2	12	8	3	0	3	7	10	21	+1
6 Queen's Pk	13	3	2	2	10	8	2	2	2	6	6	19	+2
7 Berwick	12	2	1	3	11	13	2	1	3	8	10	14	-4
8 Dumbarton	12	0	3	2	5	9	2	1	4	12	15	10	-7
9 Montrose	12	1	1	4	8	13	1	2	3	8	16	9	-13
10 Cowdnbth	12	2	0	5	5	15	0	2	3	1	11	8	-20

Hutchison draws the attention for United

Ipswich Town 2
Sheffield United 2

By Russell Kempson

IT IS perhaps a poor reflection on the Nationwide League first division that the main talking point about the display of Sheffield United, one of the division's leading sides, should be that Don Hutchison, their midfield player, ended up wearing the goalkeeper's jersey. On a cold and wet afternoon at Portman Road yesterday, there was precious little else to warm the cockles.

Hutchison went in goal in the 65th minute after Tracey had slithered into the foot of his left-hand post when trying to keep out Stockwell's deflected cross. After six minutes of treatment, he was clearly still dazed and unsure of what county he was in. He had to leave the pitch and, with United having no reserve goalkeeper on the bench, Hutchison volunteered to take over.

At the time, Ipswich Town were level at 1-1 and pushing for the lead. Strangely, their promise faded after Tracey's departure. "We had them under pressure and then it all seemed to disappear," George Burley, the Ipswich manager, said. "We never really tested Hutchison. They protected him well, but we never got in enough crosses."

United not only protected Hutchison, they managed to regain their lead, too. Ward came on as Tracey's replacement and, 14 minutes later, he seized on Cundy's weak headed clearance to the edge of the area and despatched a sweetly-struck volley past the flailing arms of Wright, the Ipswich goalkeeper.

Ipswich might be down among the division's deadmen, wracked by injury and illness for most of the season, but they at least retain a *modicum of fighting spirit*. With two minutes left, they equalised for the second time. The ball ricocheted around the United area, before brushing Dozzell's arm, Borbokis's leg and falling to Gregory, who gave Hutchison no chance from close range.

Nigel Spackman, the United manager, said: "I thought we battled quite well after losing Simon. I thought about having our other keeper, Alan Kelly, on the bench, but sometimes you make the wrong decisions. That is what managing is all about."

Spackman, who succeeded Howard Kendall at Bramall Lane, has yet to sign a contract. "I have not really had time yet," he said. "There are *still a few minor points* to sort out." United, who have been beaten only twice in 19 league and cup matches and have risen to fourth place under his guidance, will hope he commits himself soon.

United took the lead in the *eighth minute*, when *Deane* crossed from the left for Taylor to guide the ball in at the near post. "I thought our lead flattered us," Spackman said. Ipswich had also flattered, by staying in contention in a dreadful first half, but drew level in the 51st minute, when Legg nodded in Stockwell's cross.

IPSWICH TOWN (3-5-2): R Wright — A Tanner (sub: D Sonner, 88min), A Mowbray, J Cundy — K Dyer, M Stockwell, G Williams, M Holland, A Legg — A Mathie (sub: N Gregory, 79), J Dozzell.
SHEFFIELD UNITED (3-5-2): S Tracey (sub: M Ward, 65) — D Holdsworth, P McGrath, C Tiler — V Borbokis, N Marker, D Hutchison, M Patterson, D Whitehouse — B Deane, G Taylor
Referee: M Pierce.

Goram and Gough combine to confirm Rangers' Glasgow supremacy

Despairing Celtic again fall foul of durable old firm

KEVIN McCARRA

Scottish commentary

Senility may be Celtic's last hope. Age will have to get the better of Andy Goram and Richard Gough, because the task seems beyond Rangers' great rivals. The Old Firm match at Ibrox on Saturday produced a 1-0 victory for Rangers that exasperated the visiting supporters as much as it pained them.

There is a monotony about Celtic's despair that has not been broken by the overhaul of the squad. With the game goalless, Wim Jansen's team produced its only spurt of menace, but Goram, in quick succession, made a pair of splendid saves from headers by Henrik Larsson. Three minutes later, Rangers took a lead that they were never in danger of relinquishing.

Team-mates find merriment in the very idea of Gough, the veteran centre half, attempting a shot, let alone placing it in the net. "I was surprised to see him score with his right foot," Paul Gascoigne said, "because he hasn't really got any feet at all." Celtic rarely have the opportunity to participate in such ridicule.

Gough also put Rangers ahead in the corresponding fixture last season and he remains, in addition, a mighty obstruction to Celtic when attending to conventional duties. The defender, 35, re-signed for the club last month, having left to join Kansas City Wizards in May. That sabbatical is readily ignored and, to all intents and purposes, Gough has been a Rangers player for ten years.

Goram, 33, has been at *Ibrox since 1991. Despite* a multitude of subsequent signings, Rangers have only rarely found footballers who can match their influence. Sentimentality, however, should not be allowed to infiltrate judgment and there are games when it is clear that both men have been forced to pay the price for their many matches.

Gough, inevitably, is not as formidable as he was at the beginning of this decade and Goram has, of late, become acquainted with the kind of mistakes that once seemed to prey only on lesser goalkeepers. However, they continue to be larger figures in the drama of an Old Firm match than any member of the Celtic team.

'Rangers have only rarely found players able to match their influence'

Gascoigne and Brian Laudrup enjoy a similar superiority. It is easy to see why both clubs were so quickly pitched out of European competition in September, but, with nothing more than domestic tournaments to concern them, they will be compared only with one another for the rest of this season.

Rangers dominated Celtic at Ibrox. After a sluggish start to the season, Gascoigne was rebuked by Walter Smith, the *Rangers manager, but at the* weekend, the Englishman demonstrated once more that his great gifts can rapidly erase the memory of his lapses. Craig Burley and Morten Wieghorst have been at the heart of Celtic's hopes, but they were on the periphery of Gascoigne's attention, so complete was his control of events.

Rangers had made a searching examination of Celtic, noting, in particular, their vulnerability on the left of the team. On that flank, Regi Blinker makes little contribution to the defence and therefore leaves a great deal of labour for Stephane Mahe, the full back.

The Frenchman had previously been authoritative. He is, however, inclined to leap into the tackle. Where Laudrup is concerned, that is entirely the wrong instinct. The only goal of the game came after Mahe had bustled in front of the Dane in the hope of intercepting and then found Laudrup spinning away from him to roll over the cross for Gough.

Eight minutes from the end, Mahe again launched a challenge and, catching the forward rather than the ball, received his second *yellow card of the* afternoon to earn his dismissal. Not even that incident could reduce Jansen to despondency and his remarks on the game were measured. His side's poor form might have been jarring, but there were few other surprises.

A rugged defence has been built and, for the first time in the Bell's Scottish League premier division, Marco Negri was unable to score for Rangers. The Italian could not locate even the semblance of a chance, but Celtic will have to add other talents to durability. They are prosaic where they ought to be creative.

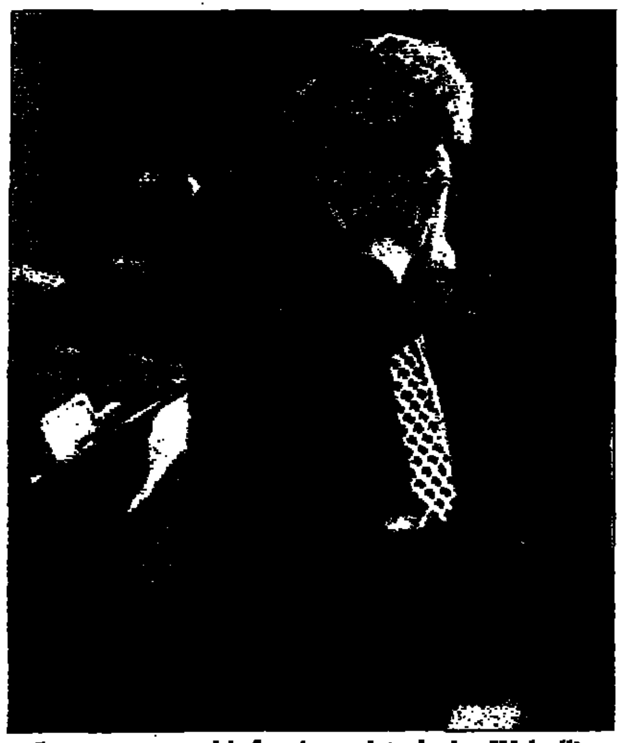
Neither Larsson nor Don*nelly is a predator and* Celtic have still to replace Cadete and Van Hooijdonk, who were sold earlier this year. The astute Jansen has much still to do and he will not lack opportunities to judge the progress. The Old Firm meet again in nine days' time.

IAN STEWART

Gough, Rangers' veteran matchwinner, soars above Donnelly at Ibrox

Walsall begin to catch the continental drift

Oliver Holt meets a manager trying to instil new beliefs at the Bescot Stadium



Sorensen covers his face in anxiety during Walsall's draw with Watford. Photograph: Marc Aspland

The crowd had long since filed away and when the floodlights went off, the reserve team players, who had been doing a few drills on the pitch at the Bescot Stadium, traipsed back into the warmth of the dressing rooms. The only sound now was the constant drone of traffic on the M6 heading towards Spaghetti Junction. In the stand, Jan Sorensen lit a cigarette.

Sorensen is the foreign manager English football forgot. A *world away from the high* profile of Arsène Wenger and Ruud Gullit and the millions that they splash on exotically talented players like Marc Overmars and Gianfranco Zola, the Dane is toiling away in the basement of the Nationwide League second division, trying to rebuild his career in the game.

This time last year, after bringing the curtain down on a playing career that included an appearance in the FC Bruges side that lost to Liverpool *in the 1978* European Cup final and spells at Ajax and Feyenoord. Sorensen had turned his back on football and was acting as the sales and marketing manager for a company that sold tenpin bowling equipment.

Now, with signings such as the mercurial Roger Boli, brother of former Rangers defender, Basile, and scorer of 11 goals this season, and Jeff *Peron, his fellow Frenchman,* Sorensen, a burly man who looks and speaks much like Jan Molby, has introduced an ambitious new passing style to this part of the Midlands. They may be three places off the bottom of the table, but the goodwill for Sorensen among the crowd is palpable.

"It has not been the best start to the season," Sorensen said, "but it has made me even more determined to succeed. I have always liked a challenge. It was something of a culture shock coming here after spending my footballing life with clubs in top divisions, but the longer I am here, the better it is.

"I do not have multimillions to spend here, but that just means I have to create success myself and, when it happens, I will get even more credit for it. You can succeed playing good football in this division. Crewe Alexandra proved that last *season and we will stick to our* principles. I have come here with ideas of changing things around."

Saturday's game, a dour struggle with the defences dominating, was not the best advert for Sorensen's approach. *Walsall at least* managed to put the brakes on Watford's runaway start at the top of the table and Boli, in particular, showed enough flashes of dribbling skill to suggest that more triumphs may follow the Coca-Cola Cup victories over Nottingham Forest and Sheffield United.

Graham Taylor, the Watford manager, admitted that his side were "below par and lacking creativity" and he said he was grateful for the point, but his team still managed to forge the best chances. The clearest of them came in the dying minutes, first when Walker, the Walsall goalkeeper, flung himself full length to save a curling free kick from Kennedy, the visitors' leading scorer, then when the goalkeeper saved in quick succession to deny Thomas and Rosenthal.

Watford's lead at the top of *the table is down to a mere six* points now, but Kevin Keegan, watching the pace-setters from the stand when he got a break from signing autographs, may have come away with a bigger *impression of Boli's tricks and* turns and a Walsall team that will soon start to rise up the division.

WALSALL (4-4-2): J Walker — W Evans, A Viveash, I Roper, C Marsh — L Donowa, D Keates, J Keister, J Peron — R Boli, M Ricketts (sub: A Watson, 80min)
WATFORD (3-4-3) A Chamberlain — R Page, K Millen, T Mooney — N Gibbs, S Palmer, R Johnson, P Kennedy — J Lee, G Noel-Williams (sub: D Thomas, 46), R Rosenthal
Referee: P Richards

Praise not paying the rent at Charlton

West Bromwich Albion .. 1
Charlton Athletic 0

By Pat Gibson

ALAN CURBISHLEY accepts the compliments gracefully enough, but he is becoming a little weary of hearing his fellow managers say that his Charlton Athletic side are the best team that they have faced in the Nationwide League first division this season when they have not got the points to prove it.

Peter Reid said it after Sunderland had held them to a goalless draw at the Stadium of Light in midweek and Ray Harford said it after a disputed goal from Andy Hunt had given West Bromwich Albion a victory that lifted them to third in the table and pushed Charlton back to sixth.

"They are not the only ones to have said it either," Curbishley said. "It is very nice to be getting a reputation for being a good side, but I have thought about it a lot and I would rather we had come here today, played dreadfully, got three points and left everyone saying how lucky we were.

"*At the end of the* day, points and league position are what count and I am very unhappy that we have just played two games in a week away from home and taken only one point when our performances merited a lot more than that."

Curbishley's mood was not improved by his conviction that the decisive goal, ten minutes before half-time, was "clearly" offside. Hunt, Albion's solitary striker, was lurking behind Chapple when the Charlton defender made a hash of a header back to his goalkeeper but was allowed to beat Petterson to the ball, evade a clumsy attempt to bring him down and steady himself before sliding the ball *into an empty net for his ninth* goal of the season.

"I am not into ranting and raving because it does not get you anywhere," Curbishley said, "but I have just spoken to the referee about it because Hunt was coming back from an offside position in the vicinity of the ball and when Chapple fluffed his header, he should have done something about it."

The match offered a fascinating contrast in styles. Charlton, busy and inventive, had struck a post as early as the eighth minute through Robinson and went on to squander several more chances in the absence of their injured leading scorer, Mendonca.

Albion, far more pragmatic, relied heavily on their defensive strength until the belated introduction of Hughes, the former Kidderminster Harrier — who has yet to start a game but has scored four goals as a substitute — had the *supporters off their seats* every time he got the ball.

"The result was far more important than the actual performance," Harford said before dismissing reports *linking him with the* managerial vacancy at Sheffield Wed*nesday as "just speculation".* Like his team, he gives nothing away.

WEST BROMWICH ALBION (4-4-1-1) A Miller — P Holmes, D Burgess, P Mardon, D Smith — S Flynn (sub: S Coldicott, 72min), I Hamilton, P Butler, K Kilbane — R Sneekes (sub: L Hughes, 65) — A Hunt
CHARLTON ATHLETIC (4-4-2): A Petterson — S Brown, R Rufus, P Chapple, M Bowen — J Robinson, K Jones, M Kinsella, M Holmes (sub: S Newton, 69) — C Leaburn, B Allen (sub: S Jones, 77)
Referee: S Baines

Defiant Doncaster refuse to submit to their fate

Barnet 1
Doncaster Rovers 1

By Keith Pike

THE countdown that started in August continues relentlessly as Doncaster Rovers hurtle inexorably towards relegation and, perhaps, even extinction: a season of 50 goals conceded, 19 matches, 13 defeats, six points, five managers, three sendings-off, no wins and, seemingly, no hope. Except that nobody has yet convinced the players.

At Underhill on Saturday, the home of another club that refused to die, around 300 travelling supporters saw their team give the sort of *defiant display that keeps* optimism alive. Doncaster are a particularly poor team and they would not pretend otherwise, but their spirit is not in question and the point they earned against Barnet helped them to narrow the gap on Brighton at the foot of the *Nationwide* League third division.

"Non-league football? I daren't even think of it," Lee Warren, who headed *Doncaster's 77th-minute* equaliser after Ken Charlery's first-half opener for Barnet, said. Ten years ago, Warren was in the same Leeds United youth team as David Batty and Gary Speed. Now, at 28, he is the longest-serving player at a club in turmoil off the field and in desperate trouble on it. His career, and his club's future, are on the line, he says. He will not relinquish either without a fight.

"That was probably our best battling performance of the season," Warren said. "Everybody stood up to be counted and we had a bit of luck as well. The supporters have stood by us and we owe it to them not to go down without a fight."

Anton Johnson's £2 million takeover at Belle Vue is thought likely to be completed this week and local rumour suggests that Kerry Dixon, the first managerial casualty of the season, will return. The club's financial and administrative problems have been well documented, but Warren says the team will play on regardless.

"There is nothing better than being a professional footballer, being paid to do something you love, even at the bottom of the third division," he said. "We are fighting for our lives. It's been so long since we won that I honestly can't remember what the win bonus is." Maybe next week, he will find out.

BARNET (3-5-2): L Harrison — G Heald, L Howarth, J Ford — S Stockley, S Searle, P Wilson, K Adams, M Harle — K Charlery, S McGleish.
DONCASTER ROVERS (4-4-2): D Williams — L Warren, A Mike, I Gore, M Smith — S Ireland, M McDonald, J Dobbin, S Hawes — I Helliwell (sub: G Messer, 22min; sub: S Sanders, 74), P Moncrieff
Referee: R Styles.

Betsy repaying McGovern's faith as Woking move on up

Woking 3
Stalybridge Celtic 1

By Walter Gammie

KEVIN BETSY received the kind of reception reserved for matchwinners who are young and home-developed as he walked round the touchline on his way to the dugout when substituted at Kingfield on Saturday.

Betsy, 19, had come through the Woking youth ranks, been blooded in the pre-FA Umbro Trophy final fixture pile-up at the tail-end of last season and is now being given his head under John McGovern, his new manager.

An uninhibited ability to take on and beat players helped Betsy to bring greater conviction to Woking when he was moved into attack after a first-half performance that had done little to enthuse the day's biggest Vauxhall Conference crowd of 2,829. It was barely redeemed by an untidy goal deep into injury-time. A free kick by Thompson spun high into the air off the back of a defender and, in the confusion, Hay claimed the final touch.

The second half brought greater urgency once Stalybridge had equalised with a penalty by Trundle after Taylor had handled when advancing to clear on the edge of the penalty area. With Betsy's footwork opening up holes, the tireless Thompson's passes hurting and Hay revelling in unaccustomed space. Stalybridge (arriving with a Kingfield record that read played five, lost five) finally met a fate that had looked preordained.

Hay met a Thompson corner at the near post in the seventieth minute and Betsy deftly touched away the third goal *after Danzey, a tall and accomplished* defender signed from Aylesbury United, saw space opening down the left touchline, outstripped the final defender and crossed low and hard.

Woking could afford the luxury of putting faith in Betsy within the framework of an experienced side that has climbed without fanfare to fourth place in the table. Stalybridge were clearly burdened by a reliance on young players, forced by having half a team sitting in the stands — with Brendan Burke, their leading goalscorer, a notable absentee, and David Hall yet to play this season.

WOKING (3-5-2): L Batty — T Howard, K Brown, M Danzey — S Smith, K Betsy (sub: T Jones, 85min), W Sutton, S Thompson, R Taylor — G Payne, D Hay.
STALYBRIDGE CELTIC (3-5-2): M Statham — D Utley, M Powell, L Coathup — R Trees, J Bates, S Jones, B Storey, G Thomas (sub: D Vine, 77) — L Trundle, A Sullivan
Referee: J Ross.

Exeter let off the hook by wayward County strikers

Notts County 1
Exeter City.................................... 1

By Richard Hobson

THIS is a season of recovery for both clubs. Notts County have fallen so rapidly that it requires a peek in the record books to confirm that as recently as 1992 they really did grace the top flight. Exeter City *are more familiar with a spit and sawdust* lifestyle, but they have no desire to toil against relegation to the Vauxhall Conference for a second successive year.

The evidence of Saturday suggests that while County are better placed to move upwards from the Nationwide League third division, then Exeter might not be too far behind come May. They sit second and third respectively this morning after a wholehearted game that reflected well upon both teams.

County created far more chances and won 12 corners to Exeter's one, but the visitors defended resolutely and broke effectively. *They were fortunate, however,* that a challenge by Blake on Dudley from behind, inside the penalty area, went unpenalised shortly after County had equalised and were enjoying their best period.

Peter Fox, the Exeter manager, described it as "a perfect recovery tackle". His description at least amused Sam Allardyce, his County counterpart. Perhaps Allardyce regretted not coining the phrase himself during his own days as the archetypal firm-but-fair central defender.

Whether County would have converted a penalty is a matter for conjecture, such was the low standard of their finishing. Dudley, an England Under-18 international, was the biggest culprit, volleying *over from inside the six-yard box, while* Farrell hit the post on the hour.

Rowbotham had put Exeter ahead in the second minute after a long ball drew a hesitant response from the defenders. Strodder, a defender, equalised when Exeter failed to clear a 57th minute Robson corner, but the visitors might have taken the lead again through Fry after a mistake by Pearce in the 87th minute. Ward saved from close range.

Allardyce admitted concern over his strikers, but, in spite of being relegated last season, he feels that County are in better shape than when he was appointed ten months ago.

NOTTS COUNTY (4-4-2). D Ward — I Hendon, G Strodder, I Richardson (sub. M Redmile, 45min) D Pearce — S Finnan, S Derry, I Baraclough, M Robson (sub. G Jones, 87) — C Dudley, S Farrell
EXETER CITY (3-5-2) A Bayes — S Gale, N Blake, L Baddeley — B Clarke, M Devlin, P Birch, J Richardson, C Fry — D Rowbotham, S Flack (sub J Williams 26).
Referee: M Pike

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New Zealand kick off with thrilling display of power and versatility

All Blacks assume total control

Llanelli	3
New Zealand XV	81

By Gerald Davies

OTHER countries have talked about total rugby, but that is precisely what it has largely remained — just talk. After a day of pelting rain that continued at times during the match and in conditions in which some would have sought excuses, New Zealand put gloriously into practice the wishful thinking of others.

This extraordinary scoreline underlines what a remarkable performance was witnessed at Stradey Park on Saturday evening. Gareth Jenkins, the Llanelli coach, emerged from the dressing-room to ask the corps of journalists: "Are you all as amazed as I am? I have to admit I've had a laugh with the players. I had to lighten the load or else it would prove too depressing. What else is there to do after a defeat like that?

David Knox, the Australia fly half, may miss the internationals against England and Scotland after dislocating a finger in the closing stages of the 18-16 defeat by Argentina in Buenos Aires on Saturday. Rod MacQueen, the coach, expected Knox would to be sent home and miss the second leg of the tour.

"We've been beaten by the All Blacks before, but we've always felt able to compete. Tonight, we were outclassed. This New Zealand team is in a class apart. I have a feeling that as we see the progress of this short tour, we in the northern hemisphere must understand and digest what makes the All Blacks perform the way that they do."

What is clear from the way that they play at present, stemming originally from the last World Cup but advanced further still under John Hart, their coach, is that the All Blacks have jettisoned the style with which they have been associated historically. The power, the speed, the basic and technical skills that they always had remain, but, because of modern demands, these qualities have been advanced a few degrees.

Once, the pack's predictable style dominated the proceedings. The back row were in influential command and the efficiency of their half backs orchestrated matters. There was not much that was put at risk. Today, their style is brilliantly elasticated — stretching to the outer limits on the wings to Wilson, Osborne and the ubiquitous Cullen, then returned to the central force at forward. There are rich improvisations, so that Ian Jones, from the second row, might have his turn in the centre or Hewitt, the hooker, can score two tries on the wing. The players are interchangeable, each is his own man responding to events as they occur. There is a bright intelligence to their rugby know-how.

"They have such a panoramic view of the field," Jenkins said, "players knowing always where to place themselves and making decisions which we do not even look for or contemplate." There were those who had seen the Bath v Cardiff match earlier in the day and had agreed what a pulsating contest it had been; but once New Zealand had shown their wares, it was hard to remain enthusiastic about the goings-on at the Recreation Ground. The All Blacks are on a different plane.

It cannot be imagined on the evidence of the season so far, through the Heineken Cup particularly, that any team in Europe is going to match the expertise and sheer pace of the All Black game. Admittedly, this first match was against a club — presumably, it will be different at international level — but any team that hopes to do well will need, as a priority, to slow down the game to their own speed, to determine their own rhythm and tempo. Success will not come otherwise.

To give a further indication of their skills, New Zealand had most of the possession, they scored at the rate of a point a minute, yet, for all Llanelli's attempts to disrupt, the visitors committed only two knock-ons in more than 80 minutes of fast rugby. Compare this with any fixture you care to mention in the British game and the statistics would suffer embarrassingly with what went on at Stradey Park. The skills are simply not up to New Zealand standards, certainly not at this pace.

HUW EVANS

Cullen, the All Black full back who scored four tries, breaks through the Llanelli defence

Llanelli's solitary score was Warlow's penalty in the fourteenth minute in response to the first of Cullen's four tries, in the fifth minute. Thereafter, for every man that the *home* team would get in position, the visitors had three. Attacks were fashioned from every position with New Zealand making the field seem a less crowded place. Space and time were created at will and effortlessly.

Much talk is expended nowadays about rugby being in the entertainment business in this professional age. From one Saturday to the next in Britain, it is hard to imagine quite what this means. Rugby is very much now what it was in the amateur days. Entertaining rugby? In the next month, we should take advantage of the way the All Blacks play and then we may find out exactly what that means.

SCORERS: Llanelli: Penalty goal: Warlow (14min). New Zealand: Tries: Cullen 4 (5, 45, 50, 55), Wilson 2 (25, 35), Jones (28), Kronfeld (31), Marshall (43), Hewitt 2 (62, 72), Ieremiah (65), Z Brooke (77). Penalty goals: Mehrtens 2 (16, 21).

SCORING SEQUENCE: 0-5, 3-5, 3-8, 3-11, 3-16, 3-21, 3-26, 3-31 (half-time), 3-36, 3-41, 3-48, 3-55, 3-62, 3-69, 3-74, 3-81.

LLANELLI: D Williams; W Proctor, N Boobyer, S Jones, W Leech, C Warlow, R Moon (rep: A Thomas, 59min); R Jones (rep. H Williams-Jones, 72), R McBryde, S Gale, S Ford, M Voyle, C Wyatt, I Jones (rep: A Gibbs, 67), H Jenkins (rep: P Morris, 40).

NEW ZEALAND: C Cullen; J Wilson (rep: J Stanley, 57), F Bunce, A Ieremiah, G Osborne; A Mehrtens (rep: J Preston, 69), J Marshall; C Dowd, N Hewitt, O Brown, I Jones, R Brooke, A Blowers, J Kronfeld (rep: Z Brooke, 56), T Randell

Referee: B Campsall (RFU).

Slanging match mars Bath's tactical victory

Bath	32
Cardiff	21

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

A YEAR ago, Bath indicated an ambition to win all four competitions then available to them — and ended with none. This season, wisely, they have kept their counsel and, on Saturday, reached the Heineken Cup semi-finals for the first time against the club that removed them from Europe in the autumn of 1996, which then rapidly became a winter of discontent.

They did so with a more structured game than they are accustomed to play: Mike Catt showing the poise and control of an international fly half on a weekend when England's team to play Australia has been chosen. That they elected to play such a game against Cardiff, who themselves base much of their approach around set pieces, was a warning to other teams who may believe there is a soft core to Bath.

Indeed, the tactics of both teams deserve more consideration than the depressing slanging match that followed, Andy Robinson accusing Cardiff of cynical disregard of the offside laws and Alex Evans brushing off such criticism as that of one green in the ways of coaching.

Bath's control of the ball and their recognition of space was far better than their Welsh opponents, even though Cardiff's domination of the lineout gave them the perfect platform from which to launch a wider game.

But to do that they need a fly half with more confidence than Jarvis possesses. Two years ago, when he erupted on to the scene with Pontypridd, Jarvis looked the epitome of youthful enthusiasm, a sinuous runner willing to take men on. Now, with three internationals in his threequarters all itching for the ball, his only development appears to be as a goalkicker and even there he was wayward at the Recreation Ground.

This was a severe blow for Cardiff. "We want to prove ourselves not just one of the top four in Wales, but among the top four in Europe," Gareth Davies, their chief executive, said, "and this defeat hurts." Indeed, it hurt one or two Cardiff supporters so much that Didier Mené, the French referee, was jostled as he left the pitch.

Nicol, the Bath captain, praised the skill and enthusiasm of players who have created the opportunity for fresh laurels. "Before half-time, we were playing the game below the pace we can play at," he said. "Afterwards, we were able to pick it up, but it was important that our defence held firm in the closing stages and kept them out until only a couple of minutes were left."

Nicol has become an important cog in the Bath machine, with the variety he brings at scrum half. Suffice it to say that Howley, the British Lion, did not overshadow him and any team that can close down Nicol and Lyle, his No 8, will be halfway to beating Bath.

That combination was potent in creating the first Bath try, at a time when the game was poised on a 12-11 knife edge. Davies had scored one simple try and Cardiff were furious to have had another disallowed. Morgan judged to have jostled Perry unfairly in a kick-and-chase when neither player seemed more culpable than the other.

Nicol: variety at scrum half

But Callard kicked four penalty goals from five attempts, Jarvis two goals from five attempts and a wonderful team try gave Bath a crucial advantage — Adebayo rounded the cover and found Callard, Catt and de Glanville streaming up in support, the centre making the corner in a season that has refurbished his own international aspirations.

SCORERS: Bath: Tries: de Glanville (41min), Ubogu (69), Lyle (83). Conversion: Callard. Penalty goals: Callard 5 (13, 22, 26, 39, 51). Cardiff: Tries: Davies 2 (30, 78). Conversion: Jarvis. Penalty goals: Jarvis 3 (11, 40, 57).

SCORING SEQUENCE (Bath first): 0-3, 3-3, 6-3, 9-3, 9-6, 12-6, 12-11 (half-time), 17-11, 20-11, 20-14, 25-14, 25-21, 32-21

BATH: J Callard; I Evans, P de Glanville, M Perry, A Adebayo; M Catt, A Nicol; K Yates, A Long, V Ubogu, G Llanes, N Redman, N Thomas, E Peters (rep: R Webster, 83min), D Lyle.

CARDIFF: J Thomas; C Morgan, L Davies, M Hall, N Walker; L Jarvis, R Howley; A Lewis (rep. S John, 48), J Humphreys, D Young (rep: L Mustoe, 71), J Tait, D Jones, G Kacala, G Jones (rep: J Ringer, 71), S Williams.

Referee: D Mené (France).

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Imports steal show under nose of England selectors

Northampton	13
Saracens	19

By Peter Bills

THE appeal of the European Cup was obvious, but there was no mistaking the importance of this Allied Dunbar Premiership match. It attracted Clive Woodward, John Mitchell and John Elliott of England, as well as David Johnston, of Scotland. The selectors will have departed with varying feelings. One week before England meet Australia, some of the personnel had convincing cases to make. At No 8, Rodber v Diprose; at scrum half, Dawson v Bracken; and at full back, now that Stimpson will not play, the claims of Beal. For Scotland, the conundrum of Townsend's form.

Assessments of each must take into account what sort of game the selectors wish to play. If, as seems probable, Woodward, the England coach, intends a liberated approach, then Diprose's excellent footballing skills would probably win him the vote at No 8. If a tighter game plan is envisaged, Rodber's power might be decisive.

Without Stimpson, England should opt for Dawson, as much for his valuable back-up as a place-kicker as his known abilities behind the pack. In truth, neither scrum half excelled, but that is not necessarily detrimental to their claims. Both back-row defences were tight, especially that of Saracens, so the half backs had a hard time. Beal can play much better.

And what of Hill, fluid and consistent at open side? If Diprose plays, his club understanding may edge him in.

Woodward will have noticed that the key players for Saracens in their rise to the top of the Premiership, with six wins from six games, are from overseas. Pienaar, whose coaching and motivational qualities are writ large upon this team, excelled, as did Lynagh, whose intelligent support earned him a crucial try. Woodward would be ecstatic to have available a prop of Pagel's power.

Hill: England chance

Saracens dominated the first half, but when Dawson's second penalty reduced their lead to 8-6, the match was in the balance. Northampton were undone by elementary mistakes and lacked the poise to sustain pressure. Townsend again looked a lost soul at centre. Moir's late try did not mask the title credentials of Saracens nor Northampton's failings.

SCORERS: Northampton: Try: Moir (80min). Conversion: Dawson. Penalty goals: Dawson 2 (40, 46). Saracens: Tries: Constable (22), Lynagh (54). Penalty goals: Lynagh (19, 61, 76)

SCORING SEQUENCE (Northampton first): 0-3, 0-8, 3-8, 6-8 (half-time), 6-13, 6-16, 6-19, 13-19.

NORTHAMPTON: N Beal, H Thorneycroft (rep. C Moir, 70min), G Townsend (rep: M Allen, 70), A Northey, B Cohen; P Grayson, M Dawson; G Pagel, C Johnson, M Stewart (rep: M Volland, 70), J Phillips (rep: S Barnes, 25-31 and 65-70), M Bayfield (rep: Barnes, 74). G Seely, B Pountney, T Rodber.

SARACENS: D Thompson (rep: K Chesney, 30); M Singer, R Constable, S Ravenscroft, B Daniel; M Lynagh, K Bracken; B Reidy (rep: A Olver, 62), G Botterman (rep: G Chuter, 62), P Wallace, P Johns, D Grewcock, F Pienaar, R Hill, A Diprose.

Referee: E Morrison (Bristol Society).

Bristol beaten white and blue

Sale	76
Bristol	0

By Geoff Greene

THE late bid by David Rees, a Manchester student, to secure a place in the England side to play Australia on Saturday was backed up by a timely hat-trick in Sale's record victory over Bristol in the Allied Dunbar Premiership first division at Heywood Road yesterday. Yet even he had to accept second billing behind the club's England Under-21 wing, Tom Beim, playing on the other flank, who ran in four.

That said, it was one of those games where even the tea lady might have scored — such was Sale's dominance. It was almost as though Sale were keen to demonstrate that their victory at Wasps last week was no fluke. It was not and, even though Bristol are struggling again this season, they still managed the double over Sale last term.

This time, however, they were never in the game. You cannot play without the ball. Bristol rarely had it and, when they did, they found themselves buried beneath a blue and white blanket.

Sale played the sort of integrated rugby between forwards and backs that their New Zealand coach, John Mitchell, has been working hard to achieve. It was effective, too, and the contest was as good as over after a mere 11 minutes. By that time, Rees, a veritable pocket battleship, had scampered over for a brace of tries and Beim had also eased himself into scoring mode.

Even when Bristol did have the ball, too often they made the mistake of kicking it to Jim Mallinder, who was in the sort of awesome form that almost got him on to the British Lions tour last summer.

From here, last season's Pilkington Cup finalists seem destined to move swiftly up the first division table. Bristol can only look on in envy.

SCORERS: Sale: Tries: Rees 3 (6min, 11, 48), Beim 4 (8, 24, 34, 53), Sanderson (28), Winstanley 2 (50, 57), Ellis (66), Mallinder (76). Conversions: Howarth 8

SCORING SEQUENCE: 7-0, 14-0, 19-0, 26-0, 33-0, 40-0 (half-time), 47-0, 52-0, 57-0, 64-0, 71-0, 76-0.

SALE: J Mallinder; D Rees (rep: M Tetlow, 74min), S Howarth, A Hadley, T Beim; S Mannix, K Ellis; P Winstanley, S Diamond (rep: G Dawe, 69), M Driver (rep: D Williamson, 75), S Raiwalui, D Baldwin, D Erskine (rep. C Murphy, 74), C Vyvyan (rep: D O'Cuinneagain, 72), P Sanderson (rep: R Smith, 79).

BRISTOL: I Jones; D Tueti, P Hull, K Maggs, S Jones; P Burke, R Jones; A Collins, K Dunn (rep: J Dicken, 44), K Fullman, P Adams, J Brownrigg, S Pearce, E Rollitt (rep: D Corkery, 44), C Short.

Referee: J Pearson (Durham).

Mallett has forward momentum

Italy	31
South Africa	62

From Barney Spender
in Bologna

NICK MALLETT, the new South Africa coach, was at pains to point out before this match that it was anything but a warm-up in preparation for the daunting task of taking on France (twice), England and Scotland on successive Saturdays in the coming weeks.

Defeats by the British Isles and the All Blacks this summer shook South African rugby to the core. On Saturday, Mallett had his first chance to assess how much rebuilding needs to be done before the Springboks begin the defence of the World Cup in 1999. What he saw was a delightful game of rugby, in which the Italians played their full part, and a performance from his team that represented a good starting point.

The handling and pace around the field of his forwards left the Italians fighting for scraps and, by the end, utterly exhausted. Rassie Erasmus, the young flanker, may have pinched the glory with the two of South Africa's nine tries, but it was Os du Randt, the loosehead prop, who epitomised the forward effort, tackling, fetching, scrummaging and collecting the first try when he was first to James Small's chip ahead.

Though they led only 22-20 at half-time, the Springboks moved up a gear in the second half, turning their possession and constant movement into points and sounding a warning to their opponents in waiting.

SCORERS: Italy: Tries: Gardner (23min), Francescato (25), Vaccari (78). Conversions: Dominguez 2. Penalty goals: Dominguez 4 (36, 40, 43, 49). South Africa: Tries: Du Randt (10), Rossouw 2 (16, 57), Small 2 (30, 60), Erasmus 2 (42, 52), Swart (67), Muir (80). Conversions: Honiball 7. Penalty goal: Honiball (7)

SCORING SEQUENCE (SA first): 3-0, 10-0, 15-0, 15-7, 15-14, 22-14, 22-17, 22-20 (half-time), 29-20, 29-23, 29-26, 36-26, 43-26, 50-26, 55-26, 55-31, 62-31.

ITALY: J Pertile (rep: M Ravazzolo, 51min; rep: G De Carli, 80); P Vaccari, C Stoica, I Francescato, Marcello Cuttitta; D Dominguez, A Troncon; Massimo Cuttitta, C Orlandi, F Properzi-Curti, C Checchinato (rep: W Cristofoletto, 57), G Croci, M Giovanelli, A Sgorlon, J Gardner.

SOUTH AFRICA: J Swart; J Small, A Snyman, D Muir, P Rossouw; H Honiball, J van der Westhuizen; O du Randt, J Dalton, A Garvey, M Andrews, K Otto, R Erasmus, A Venter, G Teichmann.

Referee: P de Luca (Argentina).

THE TIMES MONDAY NOVEMBER

Slanging mat mars Bath's tactical victor

32
21

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Dazzling Pau end Leicester resistance

Pau 35
Leicester 18

From Mark Souster
in Pau

THE force is with France. Pau yesterday joined Brive and Toulouse in the semi-finals of the Heineken Cup when they comprehensively defeated Leicester, last season's runners-up. In doing so, they avenged one of Leicester's great triumphs at the Stade Municipale de Hameau last season: they did it by keeping their fragile tempers in check and maintaining their discipline. Leicester were the more irritable, fractious and provocative. When it came to dazzling back play, there was only one team in it.

It was ungracious of Bob Dwyer, the Leicester director of rugby, to carp about David Davies, the referee, a late replacement for the injured Clayton Thomas. Dwyer accused Pau of cheating and criticised Davies for not penalising them. People in glass houses should not throw stones. The penalty count was 17-13 against Leicester, while Martin Johnson was warned for elbowing at the lineout and Davies was unable to identify the player who dug his knee into the back of Yannich Martin, the Pau left wing.

Dwyer, who did compliment Pau on their victory, could not resist a dig of his own. He said: "I knew we were in trouble when Thomas cried off and we would get an inexperienced referee. At times, I did not know who was in charge of the game. He took a lot of notice of the crowd."

The decision by Roger Pickering, the tournament director, not to allow Fritz van Heerden to play because of doubts about the timing of his registration had not helped Dwyer's mood. His replacement, Dean Richards, the former England No 8, was substituted after an hour.

It was a curate's egg of a match. Sterile forward exchanges and stoppages were illuminated by glimpses of what the French do so well. They gave free rein to their talents in the fifth minute. Torossian broke down the short side from a scrum. Brusque took it on and passed to Dantiacq. The centre could not ground the ball, but Cleda, the lock forward, could.

Leicester were strangely subdued in the first quarter, relying on Johnson and Corry for lineout possession. They struggled in the scrums, where the pack could not extert its customary control.

Pau's second try, by Leloir, came after Leicester turned over possession in midfield. Stransky struck a 40-metre penalty and Neil Back scored a try five minutes before half-time, but any thoughts that Leicester might sneak a win were soon dispelled after the interval, when Pau conjured a glorious try. A rapier-thrust down the right involving Dantiacq and Brusque tore a huge hole in the Leicester defence for Bernat-Salles to come off his wing and burst through from the 22. Serevi's try from a tapped penalty gave Leicester a flicker of hope, but Brusque's last-minute score snuffed that out.

SCORERS: Pau: Tries: Cleda (5min), Leloir (20), Bernat-Salles (54), Brusque (80). Conversions: Aucagne 3. Penalty goals: Aucagne 3 (46, 65, 57). Leicester: Tries: Back (35), Serevi (61). Conversion: Stransky. Penalty goals: Stransky 2 (23, 47)

SCORING SEQUENCE (Pau first). 6-0, 12-0, 12-3, 12-8 (half-time), 15-8 15-11, 22-11, 22-18, 25-18, 28-18, 35-18.

PAU: N Brusque; P Bernat-Salles, D Dantiacq, F Leloir, Y Martin; D Aucagne, F Torossian; P Triep-Capdeville (rep: S Brie, 62min), J Rey, J-M Gonzalez, T Mentieres (rep: A Liberatore, 68), T Cleda, S Keith (rep: S Vignolo, 52), N Bacque, F Rolles.

LEICESTER: M Horak; A Healey, W Greenwood, S Potter, L Lloyd; J Stransky, W Serevi; G Rowntree, R Cockerill, D Garforth (rep: P Freshwater, 75-79), M Johnson, D Richards (rep: J Wells, 62), M Corry, N Back, E Miller.

Referee: D Davies (Wales).

Brive keep grip on Heineken Cup at expense of English champions

A run by Rees comes to a shuddering halt as he is tackled by Alegret and Magne, of Brive, during Wasps' defeat yesterday. Photograph: Alex Livesey / Allsport

French resistance too much for Wasps

Wasps 18
Brive 25

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

THE French tricolour rose proudly above the Heineken Cup yesterday: the success of Brive, the holders, Pau and Toulouse in the quarter-finals ensures that the final will be played in France in January and only Bath stand in the way of a clean sweep by the country that has dominated this tournament since its inception.

They, at least, will have the privilege of a home semi-final over the weekend of December 20-21: the draw has given them, notionally, the weakest of the French trio in Pau, while Toulouse, the 1996 winners, will meet Brive, the holders, in a match that will make the rafters ring throughout southwest France. But even if Bath succeed against a team that has lost this season in Perth and Llanelli, this weekend has cost Twickenham the possibility of a sell-out club final.

The pride of English club rugby was swept out of Europe — Harlequins by a landslide, Leicester with relative ease and Wasps by a neck. The English champions, in front of a crowd of 10,500 at Loftus Road, could have won, but, in the end, did not deserve to; three tries to none tells a story of its own, the most damaging of the scores being the second, which was, in the context of a tight match, a virtual gift.

At 15-10 with half-time looming, Wasps had fought their way back into the match. They won yet another lineout, where Reed and Dallaglio were solid all afternoon, only to see the ball go down behind Wood. In a flash, Bonnet kicked through and neither Wood nor Roiser could recover possession. Magne was on hand and Carbonneau sent van der Linden over the line for a critical score.

"That was inexcusable," Dallaglio said. "Ultimately, it cost us the game, but, though I'm disappointed with the result, I'm not disappointed with the performance. We have no competitive rugby for the next month, because of the international programme, but I know that when I return to the club in December, Wasps will be a stronger place than when I leave it."

It is, though, a measure of Brive's maturity that they retained their composure in the face of an adverse penalty count of 27-7 and the ease with which they scored their first try, after four minutes, revealed the confidence of the whole team. Bonnet switched the ball left behind a ruck, Lamaison sent Venditti careering through a gap and Sebastian Carrat ran in the try.

Thereafter, Wasps tightened their defensive alignment and such was their control that it was 37 minutes before they conceded their first penalty, by which time Rees had converted five opportunities after the French players continued to offend, either in the tackle or by their failure to retreat ten metres with sufficient enthusiasm.

Wasps, however, could not find the space they wanted behind the Brive pack and nor was their tackling as all-embracing as they might have wished; well though he played, Sheasby was forced sideways time and again, whereas Brive's forward runners invariably crossed the gain line. Sometimes they did far more and it was a wonderful, barging run by Mallier that paved the way for Brive's third try midway through the second half.

Rees's sixth penalty had tipped the balance Wasps' way at 18-17. Lamaison's second tilted it back. Then Mallier seized his moment, the ruck was established five metres from the Wasps line and a long pass released the younger of the Carrat brothers, Jerome, who had the pace to beat the cover into the corner.

Yet the result remained in doubt, mainly through the strength of the Wasps scrum, where Green offered a convincing argument for a first international cap. Wood crossed the Brive line, only to be recalled for an errant hand in the ruck, and, in the final moments, Wasps camped on the opposing line. It was the story of a match, which contained seven minutes of injury-time, that they could get no farther.

SCORERS: Wasps: Penalty goals: Rees 6 (12min, 13, 28, 31, 34, 43). Brive: Tries: S Carrat (4), van der Linden (40), J Carrat (57) Conversions: Lamaison 2. Penalty goals: Lamaison 2 (39, 62).

SCORING SEQUENCE (Wasps first): 0-7, 3-7, 6-7, 9-7, 12-7, 15-7, 15-10, 15-17, half-time, 18-17, 18-20, 18-25

WASPS: G Rees, S Roiser, N Greenstock, R Henderson, K Logan; A King, M Wood; D Molloy, S Mitchell (rep: D Macer, 85min), W Green (rep: I Dunston, 21-25), D Cronin (rep: S Shaw, 57), A Reed, L Dallaglio, P Volley, C Sheasby.

BRIVE: S Viars (rep: P Bomati, 34): J Carrat, C Lamaison, D Venditti, S Carrat; P Carbonneau, S Bonnet (rep: L Arbo, 79); D Casadei (rep: O Goudallard, 72), L Travers (rep: Gouaillard, 9-12), R Crespy (rep: D Lapeme, 61), E Alegret, Y Manhes, L van der Linden (rep: L Mallier, 50), O Magne, T Duboisset (rep: R Sonnes, 40).

Referee: C Muir (Scotland)

CUP DRAWS

HEINEKEN CUP: Semi-finals: Toulouse v Brive, Bath v Pau.

EUROPEAN CONFERENCE: Semi-finals: Colomiers v Stade Francais; Agen v Newcastle

Ties to be played on Dec 20 and 21

Newcastle learn from Andrew the old master

Newcastle 44
Castres 0

By Kevin Ferrie

FIRST subdue, then frustrate, then capitalise as the French lose their discipline. The lessons of so many five nations successes in the late Eighties and early Nineties were put to further use as Rob Andrew guided his men into the European Conference semi-finals.

Two penalty goals during the first quarter, while Castres were enjoying their best spell of the match, soothed nerves and, by the second half, Andrew was enjoying himself sufficiently to score his first try of the season.

During the early exchanges, Castres showed the greater adventure. However, control was gradually applied by Newcastle's pack and midfield, while Gary Armstrong quickly realised that this was not the day to play it fast and lose.

The match was decided by two tries from Alan Tait. First, his half-break released Va'aiga Tuigamala and, as he carried three Frenchmen deep into their own 22, Tait was perfectly positioned to take the return pass. The second was all the centre's own work as he stepped twice off his left foot, scything through the midfield and then beyond Olivier Sarramea, the full back.

Without Thomas Castaignède, suffering from a bout of salmonella that has almost certainly ruled him out of France's meeting with South Africa next week, Castres contributed to their own downfall through indiscipline.

Newcastle had demonstrated no shortage of pre-match hospitality, offering their guests the shirts off their backs when Castres discovered that they had left their kit behind, but were utterly ruthless once the match got under way.

Pat Lam's destructive running rammed home their superiority, his own try sandwiched by those created for Andrew and Tuigamala, while the clean sheet was a tribute to the disciplined approach which prevented a French monopoly of semi-final places.

SCORERS: Newcastle: Tries: Tait 2 (27min, 30), Andrew (45), Lam (69), Tuigamala (78) Conversions: Andrew 5 Penalty goals: Andrew 3.

SCORING SEQUENCE (Newcastle first) 3-0, 6-0, 13-0, 20-0, 23-0 (half-time), 30-0, 37-0, 44-0

NEWCASTLE: S Legg; J Naylor, V Tuigamala, A Tait, G Childs (rep: J Bentley, 30): R Andrew, G Armstrong; N Popplewell, R Nesdale, P Vanzandvliet, D Ryan, G Weir, P Lam, R Arnold, P Walton

CASTRES: O Sarramea, P Escalle, E Ectuguste, J-M Aue,. P Garrigues, J Miquel, C Luquiaud, L Toussaint, C Batut (rep: R Vigneaux, 70), T Lafforgue (rep: S Bristow, 44), L Bonventre (rep: T Bourdel, 40), C Gaston, B Dalla-Riva (rep: I Lassissi, 52), M Hallinger, T Labrousse.

Referee: P Adams (Wales)

Toulouse given perfect opportunity to shine

Toulouse 51
Harlequins 10

From Mark Souster
in Toulouse

AFTER this ritual slaughter — one that confirmed Toulouse as warm favourites to win the Heineken Cup — Harlequins remained locked in their dressing room for more than an hour in a state of deep shock. They must have wondered if their systematic dismantling had really happened, or whether Andy Keast would snap his fingers and they would discover that it had only been a bad dream.

Unfortunately for them, it was not. The fortunate ones on Saturday were the 18,000 spectators privileged to have witnessed a performance that bordered on perfection. On this evidence, Toulouse will be Europe's champions for the second time in three years. The only thing that could stop them is their own sometimes brittle state of mind.

Jerome Cazalbou, their captain, said: "We can be our own worst enemies, but if we play like that again we can win the cup. Today, it was not perfection but it was close."

As Harlequins slipped out of a back entrance like men in a trance, Will Carling said: "They were hugely impressive. I cannot see anybody beating them. They play with such pace and power." Keast, the director of rugby, said: "It was the best club performance I have ever seen."

Toulouse were awesome: their defence was aggressive, they turned over Harlequins' possession with regularity, they hit their jumpers in the lineout in a manner in which the erratic Keith Wood could not and they scrummaged dynamically. Leonard, Wood and Ozdemir were left gasping for air. As the pressure mounted, so did Harlequins' mistakes.

Wood: erratic

Harlequins knew they would be undone as Emile Ntamack glided his way over the line after only three minutes. Prompted by the deft kicking from hand by Cazalbou and Delaigue, Toulouse forced Harlequins on to the back foot. It was Cazalbou's neat crossfield kick that Lapoutge plucked from the air after 24 minutes for the second try; four more were added in the second half, two by Bondouy and two by the back-row forwards, Dispagne and Didier Lacroix, as Toulouse went through their full repertoire. Ougier added five penalty goals for good measure, which helped ensure Toulouse home advantage again in the semi-final.

SCORERS: Toulouse: Tries: Bondouy 2 (43min, 69), Ntamack (3), Lapoutge (24) Dispagne (52), D Lacroix (75). Conversions: Delaigue 2, Ougier. Penalty goals: Ougier 5 (18, 20, 24, 39, 58.) Harlequins: Try: T Lacroix (72) Conversion: T Lacroix. Penalty goal: T Lacroix (8).

SCORING SEQUENCE (Toulouse first) 7-0, 7-3, 10-3, 13-3, 18-3, 21-3, 24-3 (half-time), 29-3, 36-3, 39-3, 44-3, 44-10, 51-10.

TOULOUSE: S Ougier, E Ntamack (rep: M Marfaing, 58), R Paillat, P Bondouy, P Lapoutge; Y Delaigue, J Cazalbou (rep: J Tilloles, 62), C Califano, P Soula (rep: J Begue, 70), F Tournaire (rep: J-L Jordana, 62), H Miorin (rep: F Belot, 58), F Pelous, D Lacroix, C Labit, S Dispagne

HARLEQUINS: J Williams; D O'Leary (rep. J Keyter, 77), W Carling, J Ngauamo, T Tollett; T Lacroix, H Harries (rep: N Walshe, 55); A Ozdemir (rep: P Rouse, 53), K Wood, J Leonard, G Llewellyn, L Gross, R Jenkins, L Cabannes, W Davison

Referee: D Bevan (Wales)

Gloucester's weaknesses exposed

Stade Français 53
Gloucester 22

From Nicolas Andrews
in Paris

AMONG the costumed entertainers employed to amuse the 10,000 crowd at Stade Jean Bouin on Saturday were a pair of cheeky frogs and a couple of ponderous dinosaurs. If this was a comment on the relative attributes of French and English rugby, it was harsh, but not too wide of the mark.

Gloucester, to be fair, were on the defensive in this European Conference quarter-final long before the opening whistle. Shorn of Benton, Mapletoft, Catling, Greening and almost the club's entire supply of prop forwards, they lost Sanders, the second-choice scrum half, to a hamstring injury on Friday night.

Pete Jones, a former Scotland prop, was summoned from retirement and, despite the odds stacked against them and with 500 travelling supporters cheering them on, Gloucester began brightly and battled bravely throughout.

Without a recognised goal-kicker, Fanolua was pressed into service and he gave them an early lead. When Stade Français responded with two tries, Nick Osman, in only his fifth game for the club, created a superb score, when he broke from halfway, for Lumsden, to haul Gloucester back into contention at 12-10.

But Gloucester had no answers to an imposing French front row. Nor was their defensive tackling secure enough to prevent Stade Français punching significant holes.

Three handling errors gifted the home side three tries and, if Stade Français were not quite out of sight by half-time, they were less than a minute afterwards.

Still Gloucester sought a way back, Philippe Saint-Andre and Pete Glanville popping up in increasingly unlikely positions as the Cherry and Whites resorted to sevens-style rugby, but the high-speed tactics took their toll as the makeshift pack tired and the deficit grew.

Stade Français had been three weeks without a competitive fixture and were fresher and quicker in all aspects of their play. With Moscato and Roumat leading the forward effort and Bolobolo a Lomu-like presence on the wing, they raised their game at will. Max Guazzini, a television mogul, is bankrolling this team. A new force in French rugby, they will take some stopping.

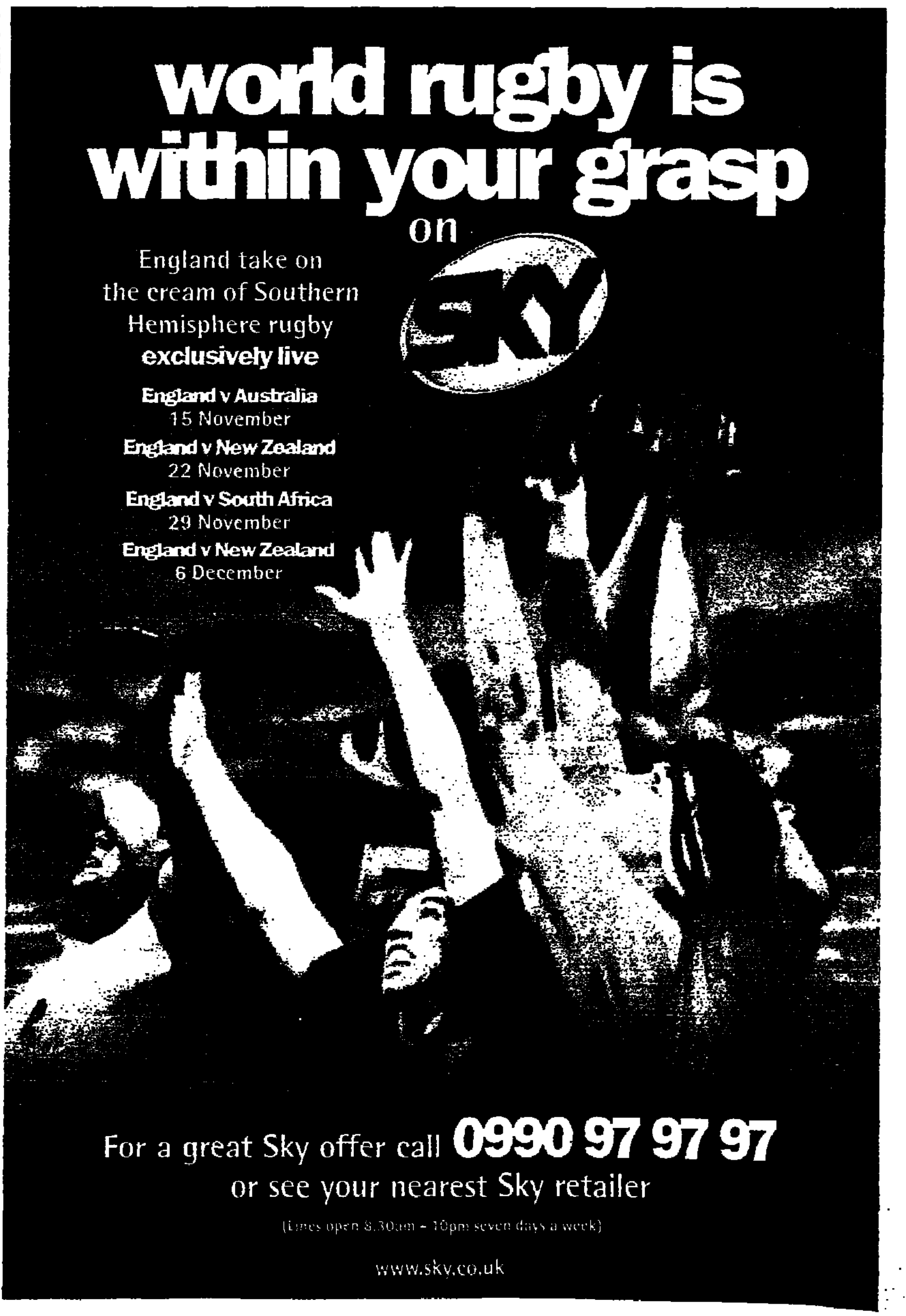
SCORERS: Tries: Bolobolo 2 (41, 52), Gimbert (8), Laussucq (13), Juillet (40), Reigt (46), Pool-Jones (71), Dominici (78) Conversions: Reigt 5. Penalty goal: Reigt (32). Gloucester: Tries: Lumsden (27), Osman (64), penalty try (44). Conversions: Fanolua 2. Penalty goal: Fanolua (3).

SCORING SEQUENCE: (Stade Français first): 0-3, 5-3, 12-3, 12-10, 15-10, 22-10 (half-time), 29-10, 29-17, 36-17, 43-17, 43-22, 48-22, 53-22.

STADE FRANCAIS: C Dominici; C Manas, F Comba, C Mytton, E Bolobolo; C Reigt, C Laussucq (rep: M Lazarges, 59); S Simon, V Moscato, P Gimbert (rep: T Mazet, 76), H Chaffardon (rep: G Ross, 58), O Roumat, R Pool-Jones, M Lievremont (rep: C Mont, 61), C Juillet (rep: X Blond, 65)

GLOUCESTER: A Lumsden, R Saint-Andre, T Fanolua (rep. M Roberts, 52), R Tombs, P Saint-Andre; N Osman, L Beck; P Jones, N McCarthy, P Vickery, R Fidler, D Sims (rep: M Cornwell, 58), P Glanville, N Carter, E Pearce

Referee: G Black (Ireland).



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Build-up to big bout has Channel 5 on ropes

MATTHEW BOND

◆

TV ACTION REPLAY

It was a small moment of broadcasting history — the first boxing on Channel 5 and, more significantly, the first world heavyweight championship to be shown live on terrestrial television for years. Definitely an occasion worth getting up for. The question was, when?

Getting proceedings under way shortly after 2.30am, Steve Scott, the new Channel 5 anchorman, was all smiling reassurance. "I'm your host for the next three hours," he said. "The main bout is due on at about 4 o'clock." Three and a half painful hours later, as Holyfield and Moorer finally started punching each other, I remembered the first rule of live Las Vegas boxing. The presenter always fibs.

In these circumstances, the broadcaster always blames the promoter, although in the case of Don King, no one seems to blame him very loudly. Yet surely the broadcaster bears some responsibility, too. Experience of several tortuous early mornings on Sky should have taught everybody that Jimmy Lennon Jr will not be announcing "the main event" until at least 5am. So why not start the broadcast at 4am, show edited highlights of the undercard on merit and still have plenty of time for chat. It seemed like a good idea as we endured the purgatory of the first 11 rounds of Tiozzo against Miller and it seemed an even better idea midway through a blurry Sunday.

But whatever your views of timing, there is surely no doubting that the style of Channel 5's coverage was well planned. We've had the hype and razzmatazz of Sky, the music and lasers of Naseem Hamed. It was time to go back to basics — one presenter and three guests in a studio. It doesn't get much simpler than that — or cheaper.

And, for the first and last 30 minutes, it didn't get much better. It was the three hours in between that were the problem, particularly for John Conteh, who started brightly enough in the wee small hours, but had become virtually monosyllabic by the time dawn broke. I sympathised.

By contrast, the newly retired Steve Collins was unstoppable. His predictions may have been off the mark (he forecast an early win and, after being pushed, plumped for Moorer) but he was the perfect studio guest — witty, well-informed and modest. "Maybe the best thing for me next time is to sit and watch and say nothing until the whole thing is over." I'm confident that he'll find it isn't.

The first real sign that we were in trouble came when I realised that Conteh, Collins and the newspaper journalist, Harry Mullan, had been talking for almost an hour, with only meagre support in the shape of pre-recorded material from ESPN, the American sports network, and Showtime, the host broadcaster. When they did eventually hand over to Reg Gutteridge, he sounded as honestly unexcited about Vazquez against Rios as only a commentator of his vintage would dare to be. He scanned the "Tale of the Tape" for a talking point. "Any idea about that one 'no contest'?" "No idea," said the man from *Boxing News*, who was keeping the co-commentator's seat warm for Lennox Lewis.

The second, third and fourth signs we were in trouble came when Vazquez and Rios went to 12 appalling rounds, followed by an equally appalling decision, and then followed again by Tiozzo and Miller. Back in the studio, after manfully asking about 1,000 perfectly sensible questions, Scott briefly cracked. As Collins finished yet another eloquent reply, Scott's face went blank. "Er, OK — John Conteh, would you agree with that?"

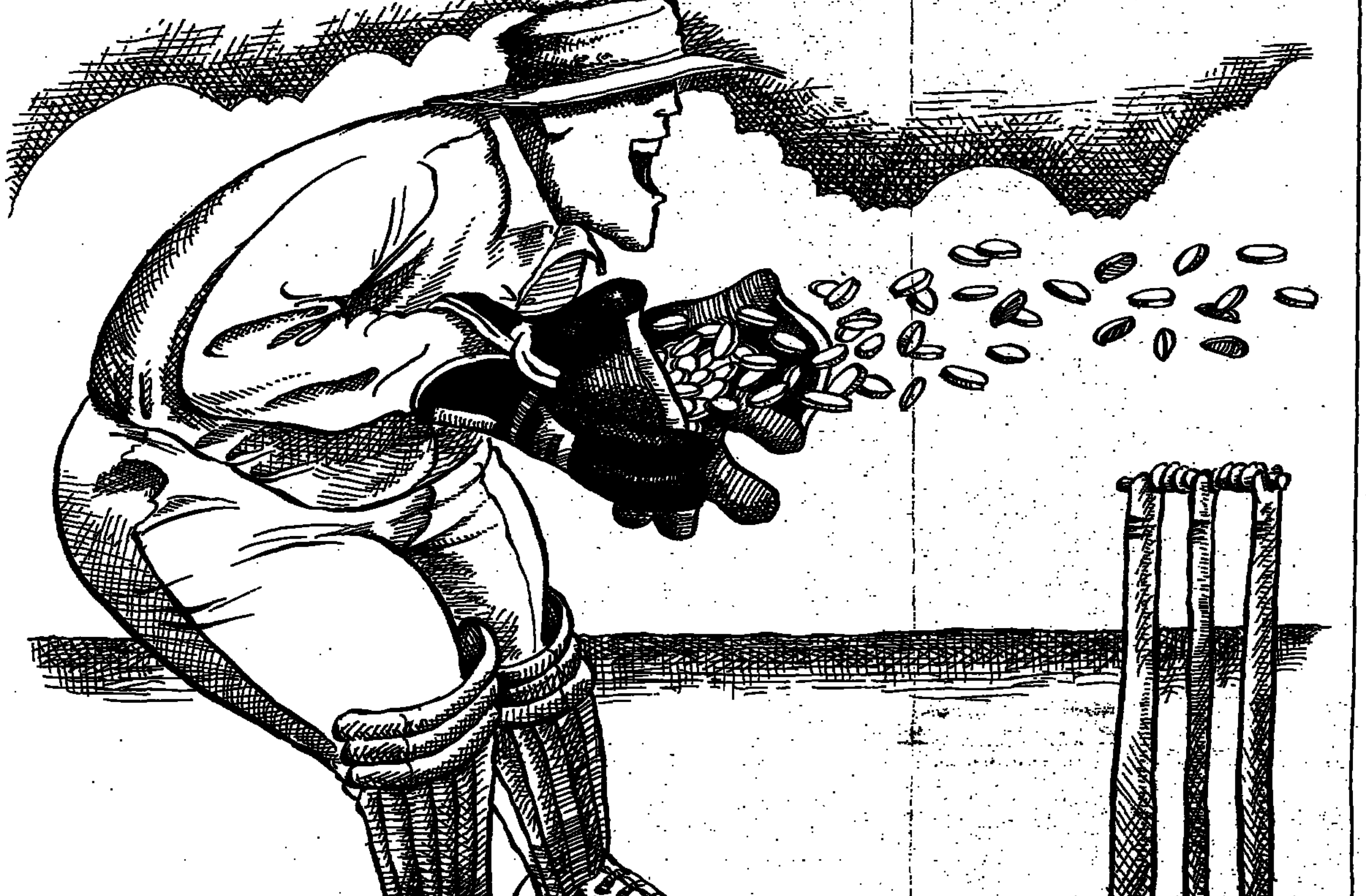
At least the extended build-up gave plenty of time to reflect on the continuing mystery of what the contest was doing on Channel 5 in the first place. If the channel had overpaid, as some suggest but the channel strongly denies, then there was precious little sign of it recouping its outlay — at least during the live coverage. I lost count of the time that passed without an ad break, but it was well over an hour. And even when the big bout did get underway, commercials were taken only between the first four rounds, a big plus for fight fans, but a minus for the company accountants.

As to the other theory, that Channel 5 have enterprisingly benefited from a cooling of relations between King and Sky, you had only to hear King's interview on Radio 4's *Today* programme on Friday. If King said "I love the BBC" once, he said it a dozen times. Do you think he was trying to tell us something?

For a channel keen to make its mark on a new sport, Lewis was unquestionably the right man to have alongside Gutteridge. For those of us looking for a bit of impartial analysis, he was hopeless. The anti-Holyfield mind-set was already in place and Lewis was clearly seeing a different contest. After five knockdowns, Lewis still wasn't convinced Moorer was hurt. More a problem with balance he suggested. "Yes," Gutteridge mused, "keeps tripping over right hooks, doesn't he?"

Football-style transfer system may be needed to bring summer game's merry-go-round to a halt

Cricket put at risk from dash for cash



CHRIS DUGGAN

MICHAEL HENDERSON

In football, they call it the close season. Cricket takes a longer break and has never been characterised by the feverish activity that goes on in the world of its richer sporting cousin. The game's culture, for want of a better word, is different: traditionally, its players have been monogamous.

Loyalty was cricket's keystone: not any more. The summer game may not have adopted the transfer system that exists in football, but that day cannot be delayed for long. To some of the less fashionable clubs, whose pockets are not deep, it would provide a necessary, if inexact, form of regulation.

Vic Brownett, the chairman of Derbyshire, who may lose two of their senior players in the next month, would support it. "God forbid it ever gets like football," he said, "but at least we would get something for the loss of our players. We are trying to put in place a proper wage structure at this club, but if Chris Adams decides to go, it would leave a big hole."

Adams, their 27-year-old batsman, has been courted by half a dozen counties and his appeal against a List 1 (contested) registration will be heard tomorrow by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB). Whatever happens, Adams will leave. So, too, may Devon Malcolm, the England fast bowler, who is out of contract at the end of his benefit season and wanted by Hampshire, Northamptonshire and Worcestershire.

It is the package that Sussex have offered Adams that has set tongues wagging. Players find out such details on the grapevine and it stiffens their own resolve to get more money. The problem is that, overall, the game cannot afford it. Jam today for a few does not mean more jam tomorrow for the many.

At first glance, Adams is not worth the £85,000 that Sussex are prepared to pay him — with the captaincy thrown in to help him to make up his mind. He has passed 1,000 runs in only three of his ten seasons at Derbyshire and a career average of 36 is hardly outstanding. But he is gifted, has time on his side and is being advised by an agent, Jonathan Barnett, whose ambition matches his own.

Indeed, all sorts of covert manoeuvres are now going on as players, agents and other people acting as conduits try to broker deals for next summer and beyond. Players have always moved about, usually when they are not retained at the end of their contracts, but a quiet stream is gradually becoming a teeming commercial river.

As he relaxes on holiday this week, Jason Gallian, of Lancashire, is considering an offer from Nottinghamshire that their cricket manager, Alan Ormrod, describes as "very attractive". In other words, it is more attractive than anything Glamorgan, Hampshire or Middlesex, who also want the player, might come up with.

Far more astonishing is the revelation that Leicestershire would welcome Chris Lewis back to the club where he began his career ten years ago. Lewis is negotiating a new contract with Surrey and Leicestershire's interest can only increase the value of a player whose performances have rarely corresponded with his talent.

The striking thing about the modern "transfer" is that it is not the star names that command the biggest fees. People will always stump up to sign the likes of Shane Warne, who spurned any number of counties before deciding to stay in Australia, and Waqar Younis, whose recruitment by Glamorgan was vindicated by their championship success last season. They and other big-name players will remain attractive targets, because they confer lustre on the clubs that pay them and are not whisked away during the summer to play Test cricket, as is the case with the leading domestic players. If Michael Atherton, for instance, was paid by the run, he would not be very well off.

"Cricketers are not well paid compared with people in other sports," Jim Cumbes, the chief executive at Lancashire, Atherton's club, said. "I find it significant that many of the players we have heard about recently are going to non-Test match grounds. These clubs get more than £1 million from the board each year and they don't have a lot to spend it on. I doubt if we could afford some of the sums that have been mentioned."

Others are less reasonable. "The money that Sussex are happy to pay Adams is generated by clubs like us," an influential figure at one club said. "It makes the handouts from the ECB look daft.

"Sometimes you begin to wonder if there isn't something in the threat of a breakaway by the bigger counties. I hope it doesn't come to that, but when Sussex are happy to spend huge sums on people who haven't even played Tests, you can understand why people are getting concerned. Will somebody tell me what Sussex have contributed to English cricket in the last 20 years?"

The Sussex situation may be exceptional, reflecting their urgent need for new players, but it will have the effect of bumping up salaries and "sweeteners" the next time a player becomes "unhappy" or starts "looking for a fresh challenge".

Not that Sussex are alone. Kent may have withdrawn from the race to sign Adams, but that does not mean that they are strapped for cash. Last year, they signed Alan Wells on a five-year contract from Sussex at an estimated £50,000 a year. At the same time, David Hemp decided to leave Glamorgan when Warwickshire offered to double his salary. Two years ago, Warwickshire prised Nick Knight from Essex, to that club's clearly expressed dismay. When John Morris joined Durham three years ago, he signed up for £44,000, a considerable dowry, although, in his case, it helped to compensate for the benefit he was passing up at Derby.

If these are unremarkable figures compared with the money that players earn in other sports, they are eye-poppingly big for cricket clubs, which have never been flush with funds and which, this summer, pleaded imminent financial ruin as a way of combating proposals to reform the professional game by Lord MacLaurin of Knebworth, the chairman of the ECB.

Rugby league has found to its cost that money, by itself, cannot solve the problems of a game. It can even create new ones. Unless money is harvested responsibly in the wider development of the game, from the bottom up, then cricket will soon find itself bedevilled by similar problems.

Meanwhile, clubs like Derbyshire soldier on, reliant more than ever on finding young players within their catchment area and husbanding their resources prudently. "We were congratulated only last week by the ECB for paying our players responsibly," Brownett said. Sadly, responsibility is no longer a common pursuit.

☐ *Lynne Truss is away*

Sports letters may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5211.
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SPORTS LETTERS

e-mail to:
letters@the-times.co.uk

Optimism in Barnsley

From Mr W.A. Douglas

Sir, I read the article "Optimism dies with Barnsley" (November 1) with a certain amount of bemusement. No right-thinking Barnsley fan expected their team to win at Old Trafford. Yes, they were well beaten by a team in sublime form and who would have defeated any other FA Carling Premiership team on the day, but the point is that football supporters throughout the land are perpetual optimists and Barnsley fans are currently living their dream which has become reality. For the 3,000 Barnsley supporters at Old Trafford, the scale of the Manchester victory may have been hard to bear, but they thoroughly enjoyed their visit and at times out-chanted the 50,000-plus United supporters.

Rather than optimism dying, the scene resembled mass delirium and, despite the results so far, the Barnsley faithful have reasons to be cheerful. Danny Wilson's steadily improving side are beginning to come to terms with the pace of the Premiership and will pick up points as the season progresses. It will be difficult, but survival is a legitimate hope.

If the worst happens and Barnsley do go down, the club, the players and fans will be the richer for the experience and better prepared for the future.

Yours sincerely,
W.A. DOUGLAS,
4 Denton Gardens,
Ackworth,
Pontefract, Yorkshire.

Football fun

From Mr Robert Pooley

Sir, Steven Page (Letters, November 3), who would never take his son to a football match, might like to cheer himself up by watching teams like Haslemere, Grayshott and Merrow. The amateur game, played by young men who pay to kick a ball, organised by unselfish club officials all over the country, is a refreshing antidote to the overpaid professionals and journalists who report — often — their every ill-considered remark.

Mr Page should get his son to play and one day he may be among those in intermediate leagues or division threes who do not really wish to aim any higher as it would take them away from their roots.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT POOLEY,
56 Weysprings,
Haslemere,
Surrey.

Wonder runner

From Mr Brian H. Parker

Sir, How does he do it? I refer to the international orienteer, Steve Hale (report, November 3), who can run through dense forest while reading a map and skipping from one lichened boulder to another — and all, no doubt, at a speed which many road-runners would find more respectable. I tried to match this performance on lichened boulders on Dartmoor last Sunday and came a fearsome cropper. All may not be lost, however. I am told that acquiring these skills is just a matter of patient practice. Since it is not unknown for orienteers in Scandinavia to compete into their nineties, I appear to have 30 years to get it right.

Yours sincerely
B.H. PARKER,
Rook House,
Victoria Road,
Dartmouth,
Devon.

Dalglish and 'media-friendly' managers

From Mr Hayden Middleton

Sir, Am I alone in tiring of media reports about Kenny Dalglish's "negative image in the media" (November 5)? It is not "a closely guarded secret" that the man is "an amusing, affable character". I hold no brief for Liverpool, Blackburn Rovers or Newcastle United, but I have had frequent glimpses of the man's sharp wit. (As when a television reporter asked him if it was hard to understand what his manager, Bob Paisley, was saying. "Sorry?" Dalglish said. And the reporter duly began to repeat the question as Dalglish exploded with laughter.)

In my view, far too many column inches are devoted to what managers say before and after matches. Since Alf Ramsey called the Argentinians "animals" in 1966, I remember precious few shafts of enlightenment from that quarter, but if we have to put up with lashings of platitudes straight from the manager's mouth, do we also need to be told, in often bitter detail, how they were delivered? Who cares if a manager's press conference "can be torture"? Do novelists tell their readers about slow service at the library while they were doing their research? "Media-friendliness" comes low on my own list of qualities in a decent manager.

Yours faithfully,
HAYDEN MIDDLETON,
24 Chestnut Ave, Headington, Oxford.

Tupper's example

From Mr Martin Winter

Sir, An outrageous slur can be the only verdict on your article (Bryant's Eye, November 5) missing Alf Tupper's key quality — his unfailing ability to complete those rush welding jobs, often working through the night, to meet his deadlines. This may explain his presence in that overlarge pantheon of undersung British sporting heroes — Douglas Jardine, Norman Hunter, Nobby Stiles, etc.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN WINTER,
24 Baskerille Rd, London.

Another view of Schumacher

From Mrs Jan Hartshorn

Sir, During the first half of 1994, I carried out a study of the interactions between servers and guests, set in the hotel restaurant where I worked. One regular group of guests were the Benetton team, including the young racing driver, Michael Schumacher.

We were instructed, as agreed with the client, not to pester him or discuss him with other guests. One waitress for example, was seriously reprimanded for confirming his presence to another guest. Possibly due to the death of Ayrton Senna and with the media moving closer, this man looked one of the most lost and isolated guests I ever served, sitting alone with his laptop for company at the table one night. Other team members had chosen to sit separately.

But there was another, more frustrating side of his isolation. Despite the glass case, Schumacher earned great respect from low status workers. He was possibly the most-liked guest we ever served and I have observed with dismay the image of arrogance, and now villainy, that is sometimes created around him in the media. The hotel waitresses and chefs could not understand how this shy man, apparently earning so much, could treat them with more courtesy and politeness than they were accustomed to. Our mistakes were not a big issue for him and our skills were clearly appreciated. Quietly, and with consideration, he gave us much-needed dignity.

Your sincerely,
JAN HARTSHORN,
Appledown, Badby,
Nr Daventry,
Northamptonshire.

Televised golf

From Sir Dick Pantlin

Sir, You state (Report, October 30) that "three television-friendly tournaments will be staged in 1999 called World Golf Championships". This should give enough time to ensure that they are visible to most golfers as opposed to the Ryder Cup, which most golfers in Continental Europe and the majority in the UK were unable to witness "live".

Yours sincerely,
DICK PANTLIN,
11 Avenue De Mercure,
1180 Brussels,
Belgium.

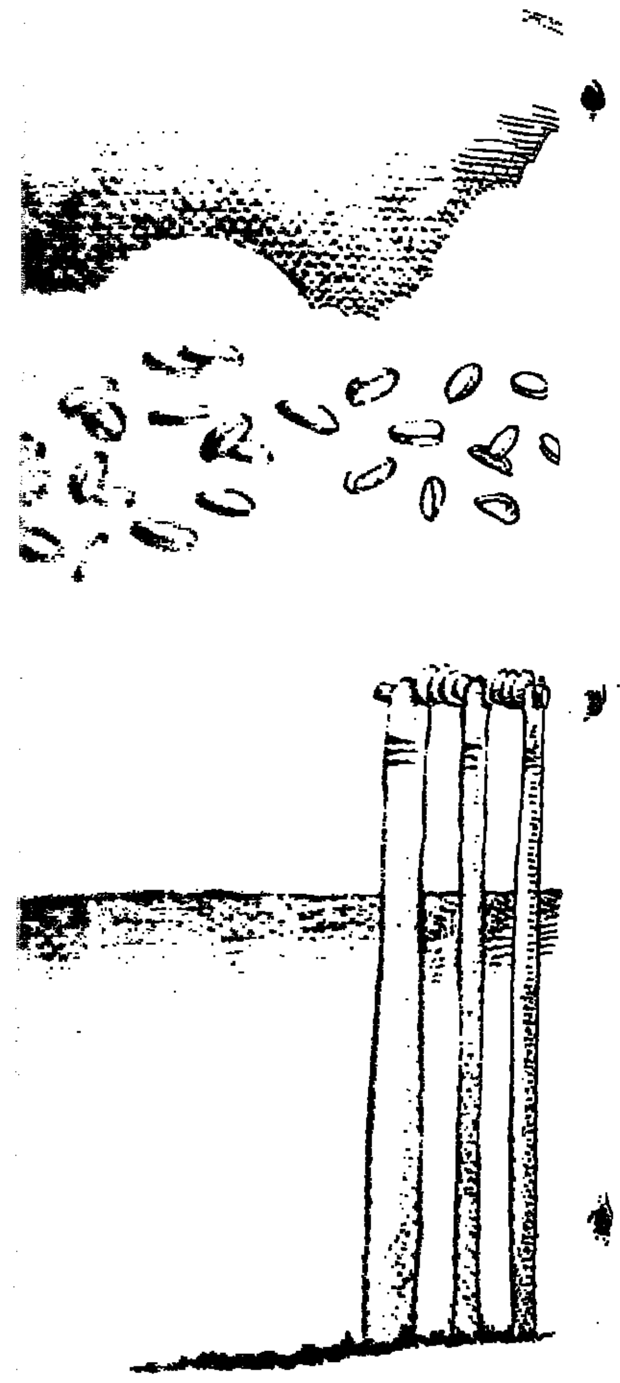
This week in
THE TIMES

■ **Tomorrow**
How has Greg Rusedski fared in the draw for the world tennis championship in Hanover?
■ **Wednesday**
Banned or fined? How has Michael Schumacher been judged for the Jerez crash?
■ **Thursday**
England fine-tune their squad for Saturday's rugby union international against Australia
■ **Saturday**
Football Saturday: Oliver Holt on England's game against Cameroon; Frank Leboeuf and Danny Baker.

HE TIMES MONDAY NOVEMBER 10

5 on ropes

rry-go-round to a halt



RUGBY LEAGUE

Farrell's expertise helps Britain to restore credibility

Great Britain 20
Australia 12

By Christopher Irvine

THE death knell for the British game was supposed to be heard at Old Trafford on Saturday. Instead, Andy Goodway's team is on the verge of winning the Ashes for the first time since 1970. Having levelled the British Gas series, Britain will help themselves to a piece of rugby league history if they can win the third and final international at Elland Road next Sunday.

This victory was as uplifting as the defeat at Wembley had been depressing. In 1990 and 1994, British hopes were crushed by defeat at Elland Road after they had won the opening match of the series; now it is they who have the momentum.

Perhaps it is because defeats of Australia are rare that each one is memorable. This one will be recalled as a triumph for determination and the talismanic Andy Farrell.

When Australia have been put under pressure in the past, they have always responded. Their discipline and ball-control, which let them down badly here, are sure to improve and their skills remain consummate. However, a transformed Britain side wore away the sheen of Australian invincibility generated by their dominance of the world club championship.

For a team rated by the bookmakers as likely to need an 18-point start to win, Britain's victory was heroic. The knowledge that Australia have won the past three deciding games leaves them no room for complacency, but, for a week at least, the mention of British rugby league is not guaranteed a laugh in the bars of Sydney.

Maybe Elkie Brooks sensed something with her rendition beforehand of *Fool If You Think It's Over* — a sentiment that Goodway will now drill into his team. "Without being pessimistic, it's one game," he said. "The players and public will enjoy it, but if we lose next Sunday, it will be an irrelevance."

For victory finally to arrive at a time when British self-esteem is so low would be the supreme irony, but with the belief that they lacked at Wembley and without the mistakes, Farrell had said, his side would win. Few believed him and fewer still thought that he should be at stand-off half. Yet that was the position from which Farrell operated like a puppeteer, guiding his hungry forwards on to the ball, dummying the Australia cover for an audacious try and landing six goals.

This time, it was the turn of Laurie Daley, the Australia captain, to give way to his opposite number. Not that Daley played poorly, but behind a pack so frequently disrupted, Australia — Tallis in particular — were let down by a lack of discipline. During the ten minutes that Tallis spent in the sin-bin for head-high tackles on Sculthorpe, Joynt and Hunte, Britain established a six-point cushion.

If a disciplinary panel decides today that Tallis has a case to answer, he could miss the match on Sunday. Now that he is fit again, however, Clyde's steadying influence in the second row is what Australia possibly require anyway. A measure of a side remains its response and there is no chance that Australia will again underestimate Britain's fortitude.

Nobody exemplified that spirit more than Broadbent in the front row. He and his fellow forwards had been as flat as the Wembley occasion the previous week, but they forged this win. Haughton's impact from the bench significantly increased the tempo and his work led to the second try, by Robinson. Nor did Morley or Sculthorpe take a step backwards in their pursuit of the opposition.

There was little Britain could have done about the tries by Walters and Gower. Otherwise, Atcheson was a rock at the back and Newlove, Hunte and Goulding, not renowned for their work in defence, encapsulated Britain's spirit.

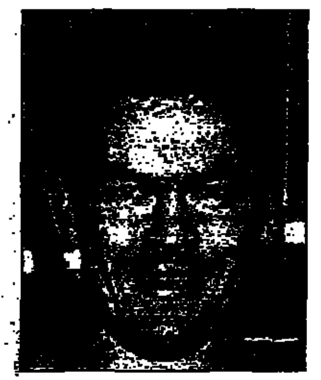
Hearts briefly stopped as Smith, with the line open, dropped the simplest of scoring passes with the score 18-12 — not that Australia were worth a draw. When Hunte launched a thrilling counter-attack, only to be illegally held down by Smith, Farrell punished them for a final time.

SCORERS: *Great Britain: Tries:* Farrell, Robinson. *Goals:* Farrell (6). *Australia: Tries:* Walters, Gower. *Goals:* Lockyer (2)

GREAT BRITAIN: P Atcheson (St Helens); J Robinson (Wigan), K Radlinski (Wigan), P Newlove (St Helens), A Hunte (St Helens); A Farrell (Wigan, captain), R Goulding (St Helens); B McDermott (Bradford), J Lowes (Bradford), P Broadbent (Sheffield), C Joynt (St Helens), A Morley (Leeds), P Sculthorpe (Warrington) Substitutes used: S Haughton (Wigan), M Forshaw (Bradford).

AUSTRALIA: D Lockyer (Brisbane); K Nagas (Canberra), A Ettingshausen (Cronulla), B Mullins (Canberra), W Sailor (Brisbane); L Daley (Canberra, captain), C Gower (Penrith); W Stevens (Cronulla), S Walters (North Queensland), B Thorn (Brisbane), M Adamson (Penrith), G Tallis (Brisbane), D Smith (Brisbane). Substitutes used: R Kearns (Melbourne), C Greenhill (Cronulla), R Richardson (Cronulla).

Referee: P Houston (New Zealand)


Farrell: outstanding

Sculthorpe shows the determination that accounted for Australia at Old Trafford. Photograph: Simon Wilkinson

Australian pride suffers in silence

David Powell finds a dwindling band urging on the men in green and gold

Australia did not have much to shout about, but then, there were not many Australians to shout. "They should be ashamed of themselves," Viv Johnson, 63, said, her face animated at the national disgrace. The defeat was not the issue here. It was the apathy among the game's followers back home that was troubling this diehard fan outside Old Trafford.

"This is the worst crowd we have ever had, terrible," Johnson said. She recalled how, in 1994, she had a choice of 22 tours to follow the Kangaroos to Britain. This time, there was no choice of operator. There was just one tour, take it or leave it. Only 15 took it. Three years ago, around 2,000 came.

Then the telling statement. "It is all because of the split," Johnson said. The team had been better supported at Wembley, for the first international, but that was London's Australian population who gave the green and gold visibility in the stands. Up at Old Trafford, the woman painting faces in team colours reported only one request for the Australia look — and she was from Leeds.

The split that has disaffected supporters is between the Super League and the Australian Rugby League (ARL). This team is comprised entirely of Super League players — which is not the full can of lager. Were it not for the fact that Great Britain played so impressively on Saturday, this might have been deemed a devalued victory, though Britain, too, were short of several first-choice players. Peter Frilingos, a visiting journalist on his sixth tour, believes that a number of ARL players, perhaps four, would be selected for a combined team. Furthermore, injuries to Steve Renouf and Allan Langer mean the absence of the world's best centre and half back.

So how should we rate this Australia team? "They are a great side," Andy Farrell, the Great Britain captain, suggested. "I would say just as good as any of the other [Australia] sides. They have great players, but we just did not let them play." Laurie Daley, the Australia captain, felt it was a case of his own team having let themselves down.

Maurice Lindsay is the Rugby Football League's chief executive, whose long and close association with the game gives him more right than most to an opinion. Lindsay, chairman of Wigan for 13 years and Great Britain team manager for five, said in the match programme that this was a "supremely gifted Australian team" and his view, with its inevitable Super League bias, was not going to be altered by one defeat.

"I think they would beat previous Australian touring sides by 20 points, which puts our performance today on a world-class level," Lindsay said. "In all other sports where there is a measure, where there is a stopwatch, weights you lift, or a high jump bar, performances have improved. So why should team sports be any different?

"I have seen every Australian team and this is a fine Australian side that ran into a committed, gutsy and competent Great Britain side. I do not think it could be improved by replacing them with ARL players. They [ARL players] would not let them down but I do not think you would see any significant improvement."

The woman from Leeds with her green and gold face paint revealed her reasons for switching sides. It was partly because she was a room-maid at the hotel where the touring team was staying, but mainly because, she was saying beforehand, she admired Australian skill more than Great Britain's. Wrong day to be in a minority of 16.

ICE HOCKEY

Eagles go to the Devils in fiery style

By Norman de Mesquita

AYR Scottish Eagles will meet Cardiff Devils in the final of the Benson and Hedges Cup in Sheffield next month. In a fiercely contested semi-final second leg, they beat Manchester Storm 4-2 to go through 8-6 on aggregate.

No quarter was asked for nor given — the game featured countless crunching body checks with defence uppermost on everyone's mind — but it was a defensive lapse by Mikael Wiklander that set up Jeff Hoad for the first Ayr goal, which came in the fifth minute.

Ten minutes later, Mike Morin equalised with the best goal of the game, but Hoad's second marker gave Ayr a 2-1 edge at the first interval.

While there was no shortage of incident on the ice, it was an off-ice occurrence that delayed the start of the second period as an excess of smoke in the bar set off the alarm system and the building had to be evacuated.

After the extended interval, the Storm thought they had equalised for a second time as the Ayr goaltender, Rob Dopson, appeared to slide over the goalline with the puck underneath him. Unfortunately for the Storm, none of the on-ice officials could confirm this. Manchester were further disappointed when Mark Montanari picked up a rebound to give Ayr a 3-1 lead.

Wiklander brought Manchester to within one three minutes later, but the Storm could not find the net again and Dennis Purdie put the icing on the Eagles' win by scoring into the empty net with nine seconds remaining.

In the two Express Cup games played on Saturday, the away teams were successful. Bracknell Bees beat Basingstoke Bison 5-2 and Cardiff Devils were 3-2 winners over Nottingham Panthers.

Results, page 41

AN EXCLUSIVE READER OFFER THE TIMES

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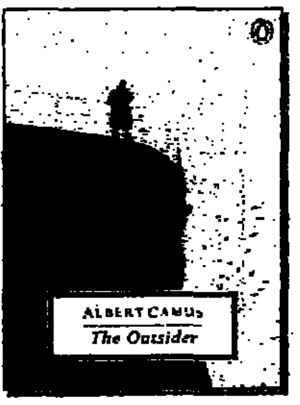
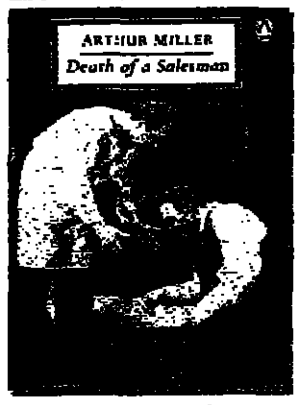
This week *The Times*, in association with Penguin Books, gives you the chance to obtain up to ten best-selling 20th-century classics for only £1.98 each, which includes p&p. All you have to do is collect four tokens from the six published in *The Times* this week. You can order as many books as you wish but only one of each title. There are ten outstanding works of fiction for you to choose from all of which will make ideal stocking fillers. They include *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams, *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller, *Wide Sargasso Sea* by Jean Rhys and *The Trial* by Franz Kafka.

Born into an oppressive, colonialist society, Creole heiress Antoinette Cosway meets a young Englishman who is drawn to her innocent sensuality and beauty. But there are evil forces working against her.

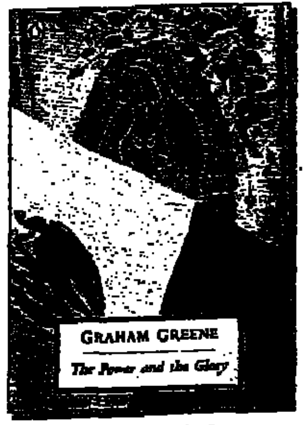


Meursault leads an apparently unremarkable life until his involvement in a violent incident calls into question the fundamental values of society and he faces the benign indifference of the universe alone.

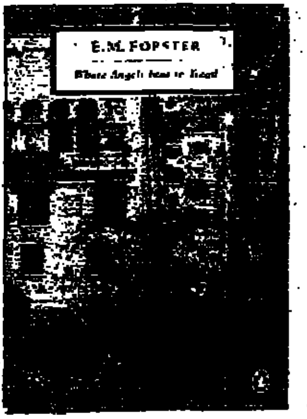
In a novel which prefigures the furtive sadism and hysteria which totalitarianism insinuates into private and sexual life, Josef K is on trial for his very existence, arrested without having done anything wrong.



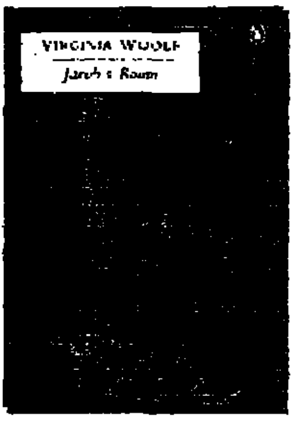
Willy Loman is an archetypal image of devouring insecurity, of the human capacity for self-deception and, through his family quarrels, of the ways in which the flaws of one generation are imprinted on the next.



During an anti-clerical purge in Mexico, a priest is hunted like a hare. Too human for heroism, too humble for martyrdom, the worldly "whisky priest" is nevertheless impelled towards his squalid Calvary.



A group of well-bred English people are confronted by a situation which is outside their experience — the marriage of a widow to an Italian 12 years her junior. Their reactions are both unexpected and violent.



Set in the halcyon days of pre-war innocence, the novel follows the progress of a young man as he passes from adolescence to adulthood in a hazy rite of passage, wandering from Cornwall to Greece.

It is New York in the 1940s, where the martinis flow through cocktail-hour to breakfast at Tiffany's and top banana Holly Golightly, a traveller and a tease, is pursued by Mafia gangsters and playboy millionaires.

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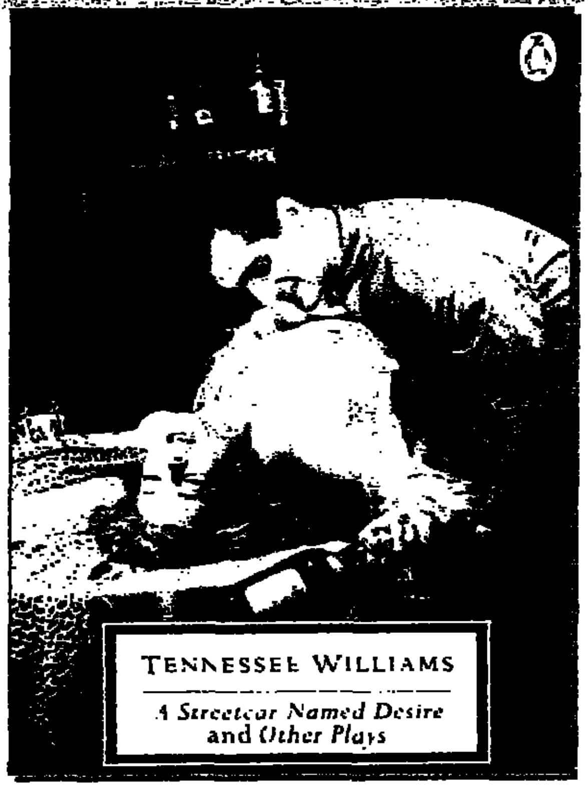
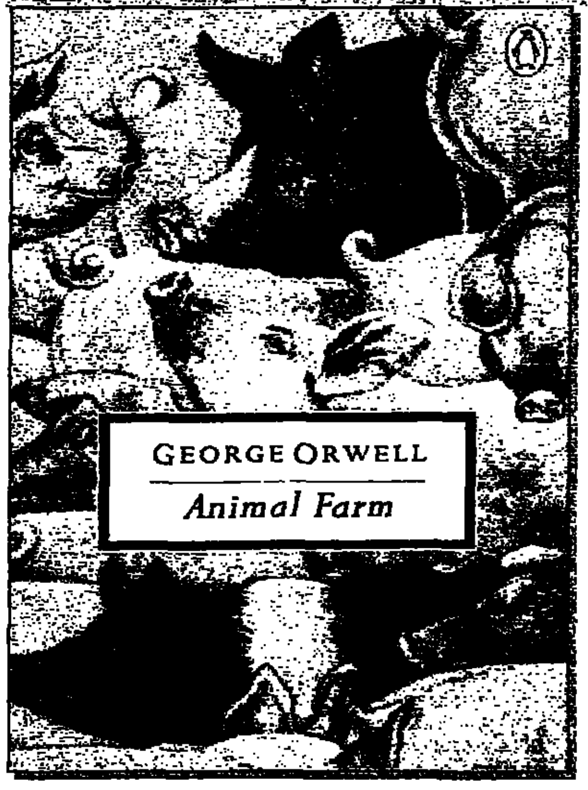


Williams takes the story of a rape and sets it in New Orleans where, buoyed up by desperate fantasies of respectability, Blanche Dubois fights the furies of destitution, insult and madness. His characters battle with their personal daemons against the giganticism of the modern world.



Another great writer of the 20th century, Malcolm Bradbury, writes, "This is one of the great modern political allegories, and the story it tells, of innocent and necessary revolution turning into dictatorship and betrayal, is not just a striking piece of political intelligence but a fundamental modern myth."

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CHANGING TIMES

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EQUESTRIANISM

Prudent gets the better of Olympic champion

FROM JENNY MACARTHUR IN BRUSSELS

KATIE Monahan Prudent, of the United States, gained her biggest success in Europe since finishing runner-up in the inaugural Volvo World Cup in Sweden in 1979 when she and her Dutch-bred mare, Belladonna, won the Volvo World Cup qualifier here yesterday after a tense jump-off involving eight of the sport's leading horses.

Prudent, who produced a breathtaking round against the clock, had the satisfaction of relegating the Olympic champion, Ulrich Kirchhoff, of Germany, on his Dutch-bred stallion, Gelha's VDL Glennridge, to second place.

Jan Tops, a member of the Dutch silver medal-winning team at the European championships in Mannheim in August, finished third after opting for a slow clear round on Operette La Silla in the jump-off.

Results 41

Robert Smith, a key member of Great Britain's bronze medal-winning team in Mannheim, again conjured two superb rounds from Senator Tees Hanauer — at 17, the oldest horse in the event — to finish in fifth place. The result, which follows his sixth place in Amsterdam two weeks ago, has lifted Smith, 36, to joint-twelfth place in the Western European League from which the top 19 qualify for the final in April. Smith is the only Briton in the top 20.

Michael Whitaker, who had been anxious to earn some qualifying points here, incurred a disappointing eight faults on Ashley, but his journey here was not in vain. On Saturday night, he and Virtual Village Two Step won the Nashuatec Grand Prix, which, although over a less demanding course than yesterday's qualifier, was one of Whitaker's most satisfying wins of the season. It confirmed the return to form of the 14-year-old gelding, who has had nearly 12 months away from the circuit with a back injury. "He feels like a new horse," Whitaker said.

Prudent was no less delighted with her win yesterday. Despite numerous successes in World Cup events in the North American League over the past 19 years, this win brought an added bonus — a £20,000 Volvo car.

It was well deserved. The technically demanding 13-fence course, designed by Luc Musette, of Belgium, caused numerous problems, with such noted riders as Alexandra Ledermann and Rochet, the Olympic bronze medal-winners, from France, who dropped out of contention on 16 faults, and Nelson Pessoa, of Brazil, who dropped out on eight.

In the jump-off, Tops produced the first clear round, but in the slow time of 42.30sec. Lars Nieberg, on For Pleasure, a member of Germany's Olympic gold medal-winning team, and Smith both incurred four faults.

Prudent, who is married to the French rider, Henri Prudent, then produced a copybook round in which her mare confirmed Prudent's assertion that she is "super careful".

Kirchhoff made a spirited attempt to match Prudent's time, but finished more than a second outside. Even then, Prudent could not relax. Trevor Coyle, of Ireland, the last rider to go, had one of the on-form horses in Cruising, the winner of the Millstreet qualifier in Ireland last weekend and one of the quickest horses on the circuit. Coyle set off at a brisk pace — with Prudent barely able to watch — but at the double, which he approached as if at a steeplechase, the second fence fell. He finished in eighth place.

Ardingly find winning formula

BY JOHN GOODBODY

MIKE SCOTT

Umpbleby, of Shrewsbury, is crowded out by Hardman and Woods, of St Bede's

ARDINGLY and Bolton both have a particular incentive to win the Boodle and Dunthorne Cup this season and they have focused on reaching the final by displaying a rare goalscoring proficiency in the early rounds.

To reach the quarter-finals of this independent schools' football competition, Ardingly crushed Westminster 10-1 while Bolton had an even more overwhelming victory over Wellingborough, 10-0. They have avoided each other in the draw, with both receiving home ties: Ardingly now play Shrewsbury, while Bolton meet Brentwood.

Ardingly's style of precise passing and constant running-off-the ball makes them attractive to watch, but far too often in recent years they have unexpectedly lost crucial matches. They were beaten in two successive finals both in this competition and in the annual independent schools' six-a-sides tournament. Last season, they also lost in the semi-final of the national Snickers' Trophy, which is open to both state and independent schools.

SPORT IN SCHOOLS

Graham Dawtrey, the master-in-charge, believes that this team is the best ever. "We have fewer weaknesses than we have had in the past and we are not relying on a few star players," he said. "This team is also benefiting from the performances of their predecessors. There is now more continuity of expectation of success in the college. It is not seen as a novelty for the football teams to do well.

"Our style is established and is coming through from the younger age-groups. Our first, second and third XIs are all unbeaten this season."

Their most intriguing player is the 17-year-old goalkeeper, Kareem Monen, who found that his dedication, agility and safe handling counted less with some English clubs than with the fact that he was still under 6ft tall. Over half-term, he was playing with the youth team of Borussia Dortmund, the European champions, who do not have such restrictions over spotting outstanding talent.

Against Westminster, Jake Fairbrother, a midfield player, who has been training with Brighton, scored a hat-trick, as did two strikers, Tom Beech and Peter Montgomery. Dawtrey says: "The one thing we are lacking is a ruthless streak. Against teams of a similar standard, we are not killing off teams as we should."

Shrewsbury beat St Bede's, Manchester 4-2 in the previous round, with two goals coming from Andrew Umpleby, playing his first game of the season after a stress fracture on his back caused by cricket fast bowling. Shrewsbury are gradually getting a settled team, after having several players unavailable through injury.

Bolton lost the final last season to Lancing but ten of that squad are now back this term, although James Freeborn, an outstanding forward, has undergone an operation to his groin and will be unavailable until after the New Year. However, Daniel Barrett, another striker who also missed the final, is scoring prolifically.

In friendlies, the team has lost 3-0 to St Bede's, drawn 3-3 with Hulme GS and 1-1 with the King's School, Chester. Chris Rigby, the master-in-charge of football, says: "We have yet to achieve consistency. When the team are good, they are really very good, but when they are not playing well, they are indifferent to the point of frustration."

The other two quarter-finals are between QEGS, Blackburn and King's Chester, while Repton, the most dangerous outsiders in the tournament, are at home to Eton, who defeated Haileybury away 3-1. Repton have won all 11 games this season, including defeating Shrewsbury 2-0 in a friendly on Saturday.

PASSING THE BUCK

INSIDE THE BUSINESS OF SPORT

Smoke settles after U-turn

I see threats of a tobacco ban on Formula One have been lifted.

Yup. Bernie Ecclestone, the sport's promotional impresario, met Tony Blair last month and persuaded him that there should be a special exemption for the sport.

Will Tony's three-point turn have much effect on Europe?

It must have some effect. The French have already banned tobacco advertising, so the teams run in their colours without the ciggy makers on them, but the Germans are a bit reluctant to jeopardise a sport where their boy is one of the top dogs.

How will the U-turn over the tobacco ban affect Formula One?

Tobacco sponsorship is worth more than £100 million a year to Formula One. Despite talk of new sponsorship income, from financial services and the like, there is nothing in the pipeline likely to replace this.

And what about the British, French and other European grands prix?

Ecclestone had been threatening to move the sport much more to the Far East. In places like Thailand, Indonesia and Macau, both motor racing and smoking are national obsessions. This U-turn might slow the move, but it will not stop it.

But how will the change affect the Formula One float?

The float?

Yes, the £2 billion float due to be lauched in July that became a £1 billion float in September and now appears to be left behind on the grid.

Well, Ecclestone reckons this will help as it takes away some of the problems. Others are not so sure.

Why's that?

Because many of the problems that dogged the orginal attempt to float Formula One still dog it.

Such as?

Teams not signing up to the Concorde agreement that governs how teleision income is divvied up between the tracks, the teams and Ecclestone.

I thought they had given up that battle.

Only the Arrows team and who cares about them? McLaren and Williams have still not come to an agreement and Formula One would be a pale shadow of its former self without the world champions and the winners of the final grand prix. Without them, Concorde will not fly.

But isn't there a cloud over the final result, with accusations of collaboration between Williams and McLaren?

Mmm. Yes. Isn't that interesting. If they were disqualified, this would mean that Michael Schumacher would be world champion, lifting the cloud hanging over him and giving the Ferrari team their first world title in living memory.

Would Ecclestone like this?

It might be in his interests. Ferrari is a strong supporter of his, with a former Ferrari executive taking a senior post in the hierachy of Ecclestone's restructured Formula One Holdings.

So McLaren and Williams having their wings clipped might help them come in on Concorde and so aid the Formula One float?

And I thought Macchiavelli was a new Italian racing driver.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

It is often difficult to find minor-suit games when they are the right contract even at Teams scoring. This deal occurred in a local League match.

Dealer East Game all IMPs

♠K 6 4
♥Q 8 6
♦A 9 8 2
♣A 7 6

♠10 3
♥5 3 2
♦K 10 5 3
♣9 5 3 2

N
W E
S

♠A 8 7 2
♥K 9 7
♦J
♣K Q 10 8 4

♠Q J 9 5
♥A J 10 4
♦Q 7 6 4
♣J

S	W	N	E
—	—	—	1 C
Double	Pass	2 C	Pass
2 H	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 D	Pass	5 D	All Pass

Contract: Five Diamonds by South. Lead: two of clubs

At all four tables North responded Two Clubs to the take-out double but at three tables he rebid Three No-Trumps over South's Two Hearts. This contract went a routine one down on a club lead.

At the fourth table North could see that clubs were insufficiently stopped for Three No-Trumps so he made the calculated underbid of Two No-Trumps. South, noting that North had not bid Two No-Trumps straight away so was clearly interested in alternative contracts, tried to play in Three Diamonds. North could restrain himself no longer and jumped to game.

Declarer won the club lead and played a low trump to the jack, queen and king. He ruffed the club continuation and played a spade to the king. East won the ace (ducking would be better) and played a third club. Declarer ruffed in hand, took a trump finesse and played the queen of hearts, covered by the king and ace. All declarer needed to do now was guess West's distribution. He cashed the queen of spades and when the ten fell he played two more rounds of hearts. A fourth heart left West helpless. If he ruffed declarer would overruff, draw his last trump and cash a spade. If he discarded his club, declarer would discard a spade and then a spade from hand would allow declarer to pick up West's trumps. A well-deserved game swing.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

PIBGORN
a. A musical instrument
b. An irregular pentagon
c. Rifle Brigade insignia

COCK TREAD
a. Highland Brigade march
b. Mark [illegible]
c. Foot[illegible] valve

SYRINX
a. A hypodermic
b. Voice producer
c. A constellation

HOCKET
a. A light Rihine wine
b. Youg farmed reindeer
c. A musical device

Answers on page 49

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Times Draw

In a simultaneous display, involving 24 games at one and the same time played over the weekend at the Cobden Club in London, world champion Garry Kasparov won the vast majority, conceding a few draws but no losses. The display was in aid of the Fragile X Society charity, which combats learning disorders. Amongst the draws was the following hard fought game by Daniel Johnson of The Times. Other chess enthusiasts present included Steve Davis, Sting and Julian Barnes.

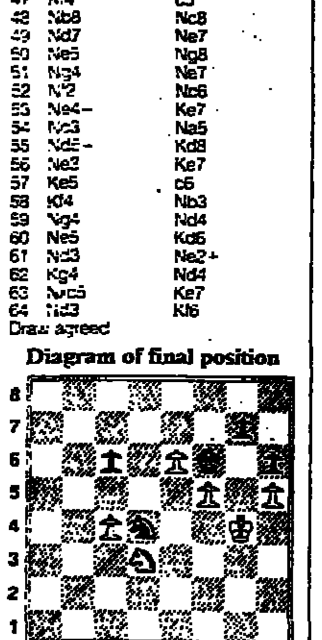
White: Gary Kasparov
Black: Daniel Johnson
Simultaneous Display,
Cobden Club, London,
November 1997

Ruy Lopez

1	e4	e5
2	Nf3	Nc6
3	Bb5	Nf6
4	0-0	Nxe4
5	d4	Nd6
6	Bxc6	dxc6
7	dxe5	Nf5
8	Qxd8+	Kxd8
9	Rd1+	Ke8
10	Nc3	Be6
11	Ng5	Rd8
12	Rxd5+	Kxd8
13	Nxe6+	fxe6
14	Bg5+	Be7
15	Rd1+	Ke8
16	Bxe7	Kxe7
17	Ne4	b6
18	c3	Rf8
19	g3	Nh6
20	h3	Nf7
21	f4	Rd8
22	Rxd8	Kxd8
23	Kf2	Kd7
24	b4	a6
25	g4	Ke7
26	a4	Kd7
27	Ke3	Ke7
28	Ng3	Kf8
29	h4	Nh6
30	Kf3	Ng8
31	f5	Kf7
32	Ne4	h6
33	a5	exf5
34	gxf5	Ne7
35	e6+	Kf8
36	Kf4	Nd5+
37	Ke5	Ke7
38	h5	Ne3
39	Kf4	Nc4
40	Kf3	bxa5
41	bxa5	Nxa5
42	Nc5	Nc4
43	Nxa6	Kd6
44	Kf4	Nb6
45	Kf3	Nd5
46	c4	Ne7
47	Kf4	c5
48	Nb8	Nc8
49	Nd7	Ne7
50	Ne5	Ng8
51	Ng4	Ne7
52	Nf2	Nc6
53	Ne4+	Ke7
54	Nc3	Na5
55	Nd5+	Kd8
56	Ne3	Ke7
57	Ke5	c6
58	Kf4	Nb3
59	Ng4	Nd4
60	Ne5	Kd6
61	Nd3	Ne2+
62	Kg4	Nd4
63	Nc5	Ke7
64	Nd3	Kf6

Draw agreed

Diagram of final position

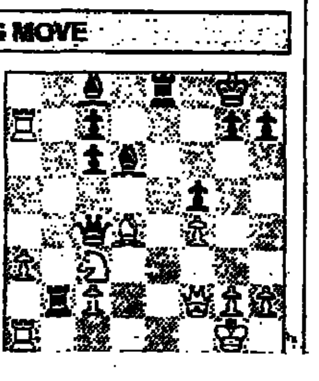


After a bitter struggle Kasparov missed a good chance with 64 Ne4. As played, in the final position, White must bale out with 65 e7, giving back his extra pawn in order to achieve a drawn position, otherwise he is in danger of losing two pawns.

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

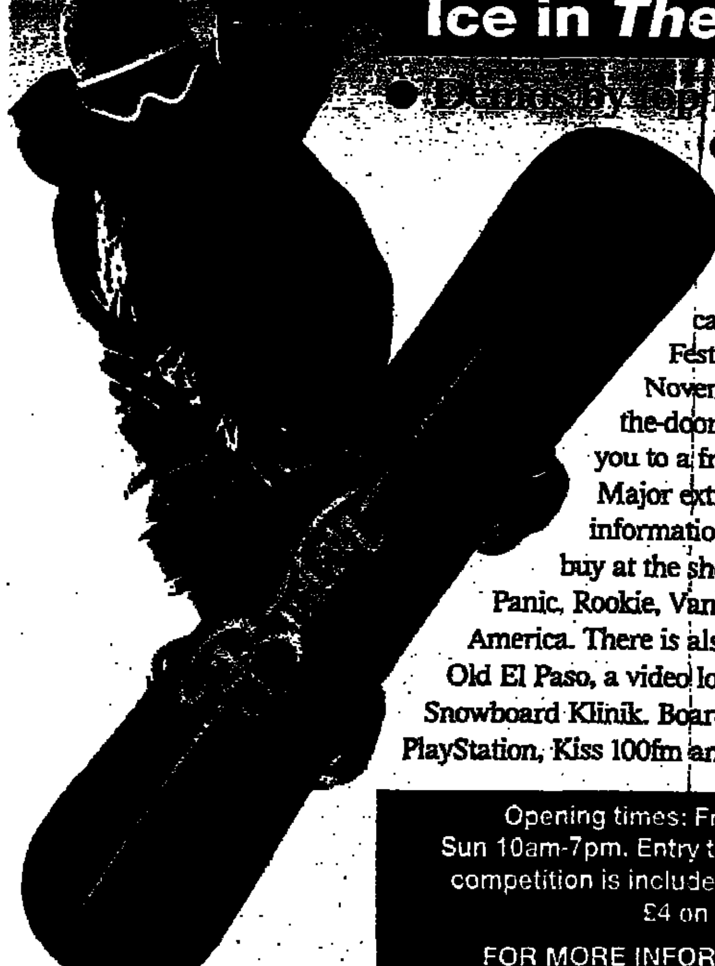
By Raymond Keene



Black to play. This position is from the game Spielmann — Reti, Vienna 1913.

Material is level and white's pieces appear to be posted aggressively. However, Black has a move that knocks out White's bastions. Can you see it?

Solution on page 49



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CHANGING TIMES

SAILING: SWEDE READS FREIGHTER'S SMOKE SIGNAL

Lonely gamble gives Krantz dream start

By Ed Gorman,
Sailing Correspondent

THERE were some ragged nerves among the Whitbread Round the World Race skippers yesterday after a start to the 4,600-mile second leg from Cape Town to Fremantle that left the favourites floundering in a dying breeze, while *Swedish Match* took a big risk to establish a strong early lead.

After getting away cleanly in a 12-15 knot westerly at midday on Saturday, the nine yachts completed a 1.8-mile windward-leeward parade lap, then a two-mile fetch offshore before they headed south to leave the Cape of Good Hope to port.

At the last mark, it was Lawrie Smith, of Great Britain, in *Silk Cut*, who held a narrow lead from Gunnar Krantz, in *Swedish Match*, with Paul Standbridge, of Britain, in *Toshiba*, third. Smith, believing that there was more breeze inshore, led the fleet — with the exception of *Swedish Match* — along the coastline, only to find the breeze dying all around them.

Krantz, who is under pressure to improve after a woeful first leg, when he brought his elegant, dark-blue Farr hull into Cape Town in eighth place, had set out determined to stay with the fleet, but locals in Cape Town had warned him to keep at least two miles offshore and, as he watched the others head along the coast, he spotted smoke from the engine of a freighter to the south streaming back in a fresh breeze and he decided to go for it.

"We tacked out and sailed into the new breeze from the north-west and tacked back 2.6 miles from land," he reported. "We were still nervous from being alone, with the fleet less than a mile from land, tacking along the shore. Slowly, the bearing on the other boats started to work our way and we changed from a light jib to a *jibtop* and then to a spinnaker."

It may have been a flyer, but it turned into a dream start. With the key to this leg all about getting south into the low pressure conveyor belt of the Roaring Forties before anyone else, Krantz and his crew must have been beside themselves with delight as the opening position schedules showed them sailing away from the fleet.

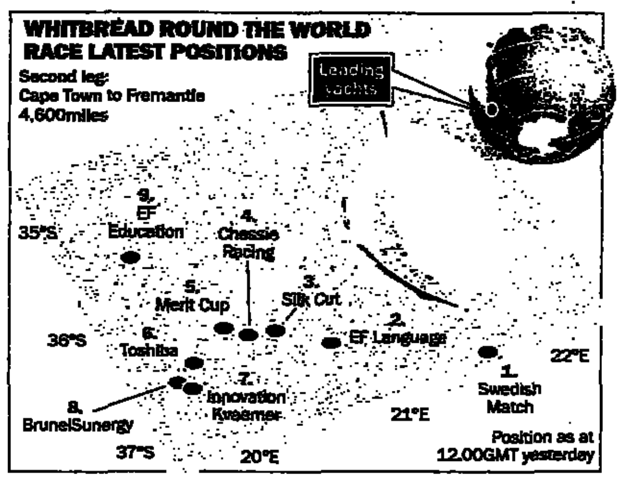
Three-and-a-half hours into the race, *Swedish Match* was six miles ahead and making 10.2 knots, while all the other boats except one were doing less than one knot. Six hours in, Krantz had built a lead of 16 miles over second-placed Paul Cayard, in *EF Language*, while the rest of the fleet were still averaging less than five knots, including Grant Dalton's *Merit Cup*, which was making just 2.5 knots in last place.

By yesterday, the lead was 50 miles, with *EF Language* second, just ahead of Smith in third. Dalton had recovered to fifth, 72 miles behind Krantz, while *Toshiba* was down in a worrying sixth position, 87 miles behind the leading boat, after again showing her Achilles' heel in light airs.

Dalton, who came into Cape Town in second place, has had an awful fright. "We are still reeling on board from the severity and the suddeness of what has happened and I only hope that in the days to come we can repair the damage in miles lost that has been caused," he reported yesterday. "If we had tried to muck up the first six hours more, we would have struggled."

As Krantz and Cayard continued heading south yesterday, a clear difference of opinion on strategy was already evident with Smith, Mark Fischer, in *Chessie Racing*, and Dalton, opting for a higher course, slightly more to the east. The indications were, however, that the leaders may be favoured with the forecast predicting more wind in the south over the next two days.

Silk Cut heads out of Cape Town for Fremantle before pulling most of the fleet along the coastline



DISTANCE TO FINISH: Positions (with miles to Fremantle) 1. Swedish Match (Swe) 4,456.9; 2. EF Language (Swe) 4,507.7; 3. Silk Cut (GB) 4,523.6; 4. Chessie Racing (US) 4,525.3; 5. Merit Cup (Monaco) 4,529.5; 6. Toshiba (US) 4,544.1; 7. Innovation Kvaerner (Nor) 4,546.9; 8. BrunelSunergy (Holl) 4,548.3; 9. EF Education (Swe) 4,574.7.

SPEEDWAY

Bradford reassured over Odsal

By Tony Hoare

BRADFORD Dukes, the Elite League champions, have received assurances that the conversion of Odsal Stadium into a £250 million, 65,000-seat superdome will not spell the end of speedway at the venue.

Fears had grown that approval for the superdome would mean a permanent end to speedway and stock-car racing at Odsal, which is also the home of Bradford Bulls rugby league club. The Dukes' operation will be suspended for two years while the construction work is carried out, but Allan Ham, the Dukes promoter, said he would soon be discussing potential dates for opening the 2000 season with John Garside, the superdome chief executive.

In a statement issued jointly with Steve Rees, the Odsal stock-car promoter, Ham said: "We are confident in John Garside's assurances that speedway and stock-car racing will be a main feature of this fabulous development."

The immediate effect of the Dukes decision not to defend their title in 1998 is that Bradford's riders are now all available for transfer. Joe Screen, the most expensive British rider ever at £32,500, and Gary Havelock, the 1992 world champion, head the list.

CRICKET

Cairns consolidates New Zealand rally

By Our Sports Staff

CHRIS CAIRNS produced an outstanding individual performance as New Zealand refused to concede the initiative to Australia on the third day of the first Test match in Brisbane.

Australia were 25 for one at the close — an overall lead of 49 — after Cairns had dismissed Mark Taylor, the Australia captain, for 16. Taylor, who scored a disciplined 112 in the first innings, was tempted into a rash stroke outside his off stump and edged Cairns to Astle in the gully. Matthew Elliott and Ian Healy, the nightwatchman, were unbeaten on seven and one respectively.

Earlier, New Zealand had displayed great tenacity in making 349 all out in reply to Australia's first-innings total of 373. New Zealand steadily chipped away at Australia's total with four batsmen scoring half-centuries.

Stephen Fleming, the captain, missed his second Test century by nine runs after an innings lasting almost five hours. Cairns, who took four wickets in the Australia first innings, made a composed 64.

Cairns added to significant contributions by Blair Pocock, who made 57, and Craig McMillan, with 54. McMillan, on his debut, hit Shane Warne back over his head for six to bring up his fifty.

New Zealand, determined to end their miserable record on the tour, frustrated the Australia bowlers for most of the day before their innings ended about 70 minutes before the close.

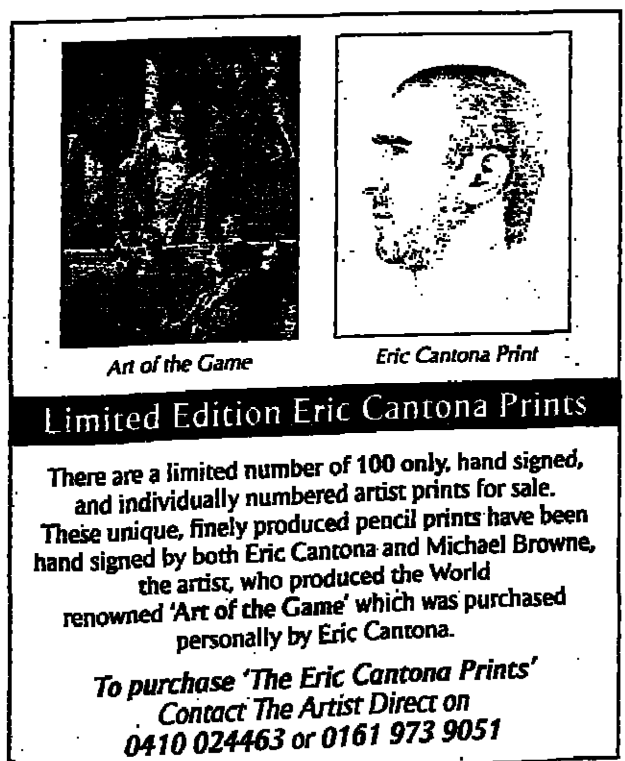
Fleming's contribution was even more significant given that New Zealand were 36 for two when he came to the wicket. Dropped on 21 by Mark Waugh off Glenn McGrath, Fleming had stands of 98 with Pocock, 39 with Daniel Vettori and 37 with McMillan.

He batted for 282 minutes and hit 13 boundaries before his hopes of repeating his century against England last winter were ended when Michael Kasprowicz dismissed him leg-before.

McMillan, 21, displayed impressive footwork, making 54 in 141 minutes off 104 balls with eight fours before he fell leg-before to Warne.

Warne, who had a great tussle with Fleming, McMillan and Cairns, finished with four for 106 off 42 overs and has now taken 268 Test wickets. He will be keenly anticipating a turning pitch on the last day. McGrath picked up the last two wickets, Cairns and Geoff Allott, to finish with two for 96, while Kasprowicz had two for 57.

Scoreboard, page 41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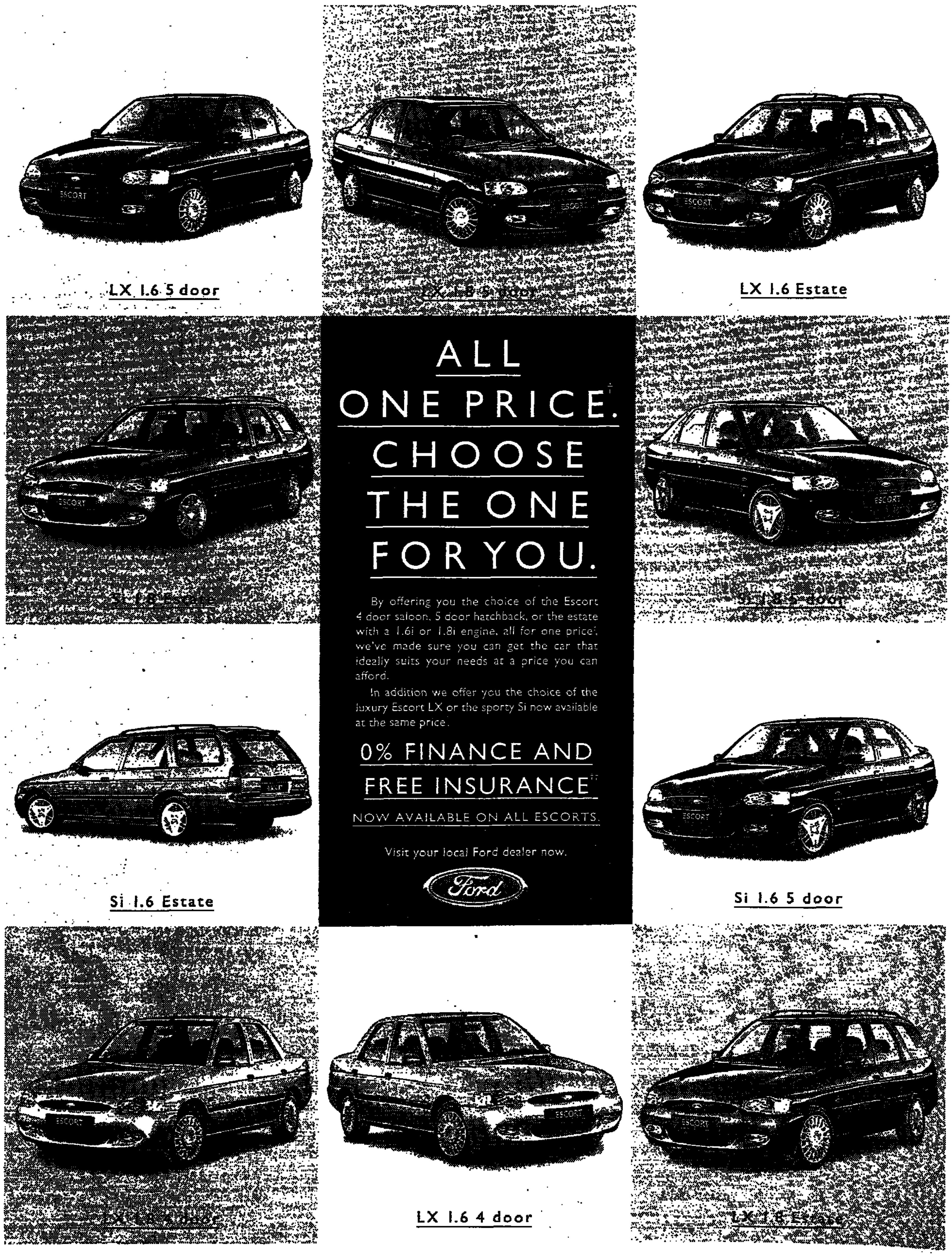
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هكذا من الاصل

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RACING: TEXAN DISMISSES RETIREMENT RUMOURS AFTER ACHIEVING FIRST BREEDERS' CUP SUCCESS

Asmussen rides high on Spinning World

FROM CHRIS McGRATH
AT HOLLYWOOD PARK

IT SEEMS somehow appropriate that the horse to conquer anew the disorientation and self-doubt tormenting Europe's raiders at the Breeders' Cup should be named Spinning World — and still more so that he should be ridden to a stirring success here on Saturday by one of the most cosmopolitan figures in the global sport.

Cash Asmussen has such a vivid personality that the presence of a self-effacing foil in Jonathan Pease, the horse's trainer, lent an extra flourish to his role in the Breeders' Cup Mile. Back in his homeland, Asmussen seized centre stage as he exulted — with the confidence, flair and passion that are his defining attributes — in a first Breeders' Cup success from 23 attempts.

The Texan astutely capitalised on a helpful draw to ride with more aggression than has often been his trademark, hurtling clear in the home straight to deny the local hope, Geri, by two lengths with Decorated Hero a gallant third for Britain.

But if the day distilled much of Asmussen's essence, it also contained a potent flavour of valediction — so much so that he had to "put the record straight" on rumours that he would be following Spinning World into retirement.

Suggestions circulated beforehand to this effect, which appeared to gain substance when Maria Niarchos — who has assumed control of her late father's bloodstock interests — greeted him in the paddock by saying: "Last chance." He replied: "Yep, but a big chance."

Spinning World, centre, gives Asmussen his first Breeders' Cup success. Photograph: Mike Powell/Allsport

Asmussen explained that this exchange, treated as a reference to his long wait for a first Cup winner, had been misconstrued. "She was talking about the fact that Spinning World is now going to Ashford Stud."

Asmussen certainly demonstrated that he preserves undiminished all the bravura of the man who exported his talents to Europe 14 seasons ago. Yet it does seem unlikely that he will ride for the several years his age still permits him. At 35, there are grey flecks to his dashing mane of hair. A colourful rivalry with Olivier Peslier confirms him in the knowledge that he has surrendered the Parisian limelight to a younger generation. It has also, naturally, been a time of upheaval in the Niarchos racing dynasty.

"We'll see how it all pans out," the five-times champion jockey of France said. "I'm still enjoying it. It's true that I have been fortunate enough to have some great times in the game, and it can be hard to get up for some events nowadays. But it doesn't get better than this. I grew up with a lot of these people here, and can't explain in words how much it means to me. Like a fine Bordeaux, this horse has got better every time I tasted him. He is a champion and was ready to explode."

Even such an exceptional horse, however, requires the most skilful preparation to succeed here against the odds of a long season and sudden change of environment. Pease has already won a Breeders' Cup event, with Tikkanen three years ago, and deserves all the plaudits his temperament disposes him to avoid. "I think missing the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes at Ascot could have made all the difference," the Chantilly trainer said. "It kept him fresh."

Pease is an Englishman, but California remains virgin territory for British-based raiders, with Carmine Lake ninth and Royal Applause trailing in last behind Elmhurst in the Sprint. The French filly, Pas De Reponse, was again ridden too positively and dropped away, while her stablemate, Majorien, could not get into the Turf shake-up.

By contrast, there was a superb Cup debut by Kieren Fallon aboard the German filly, Borgia, beating all bar Chief Bearheart. With a winner, second and third, it was an encouraging chapter for the Europeans, especially after the smallest raiding party yet had lost Singspiel at the eleventh hour.

On a day dominated by flourishing exiles, however, the star turn was undoubtedly Romford-born Patrick Byrne, who saddled exciting winners of both Juvenile races in Countess Diana and Favorite Trick. The latter, unbeaten in eight, now jostles Skip Away — emphatic winner of the world's richest prize in the Classic — for the status of US Horse of the Year.

BREEDERS' CUP RETURNS

Going: firm (turf), fast (dirt)

6.55 BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE FILLIES (Group I: 2-Y-O: £416,667: 1m 110yd)

1, Countess Diana (S Sellers), 2, Career Collection, 3, Primaly. 14 ran. 8½l, 4l. P Byrne. Pari-mutuel (inc $2 stake): 6.00; place (1 and 2) 3.60, 4.20; show (1, 2 and 3) 3.00, 3.80, 4.80 (coupled with Balisian Beauty and Lily O'Gold).

7.30 BREEDERS' CUP SPRINT (Group I: £416,667: 6f)

1, Elmhurst (C Nakatani), 2, Hesabull; 3, Bet On Sunshine. 14 ran. ½l, nk. Jenine Sahadi. Pari-mutuel: 35.20; place 15.80, 13.20; show 10.40, 8.20, 6.00.

8.05 BREEDERS' CUP DISTAFF (Group I: £416,667: 1m 1f)

1, Ajina (M Smith), 2, Sharp Cat; 3, Escena. 8 ran. 2l, 3½l. W Mott. Pari-mutuel: 11.60 (coupled with Escena in all pools); place 3.80, 2.40; show 3.80, 2.20, 3.80.

8.40 BREEDERS' CUP MILE (Turf, group I: £416,667: 1m)

1, Spinning World (C Asmussen); 2, Geri; 3, Decorated Hero. 12 ran. 2l, nk. J Pease in France. Pari-mutuel: 6.20; place 4.00, 5.60; show 2.80, 4.40, 10.20.

9.15 BREEDERS' CUP JUVENILE (Group I: 2-Y-O: £416,667: 1m 110yd)

1, Favorite Trick (P Day), 2, Dawson's Legacy; 3, Nationalore. 8 ran. 5½l, nk. P Byrne. Pari-mutuel: 4.40; place 3.40, 30.80; show 2.60, 9.20, 6.40.

9.50 BREEDERS' CUP TURF (Group I: £833,333: 1m 4f)

1, Chief Bearhart (J Santos); 2, Borgia; 3, Flag Down. NR: Singspiel. 11 ran. ¾l, ½l. M Frostad in Canada. Pari-mutuel: 5.80; place 3.60, 5.00; show 3.20, 3.80, 6.20.

10.35 BREEDERS' CUP CLASSIC (Group I: £1,866,666: 1m 2f)

1, Skip Away (M Smith), 2, Deputy Commander; 3, Dowty. 9 ran. 6l, ½l. H Hine. Pari-mutuel: 5.60; place 3.20, 4.60; show 2.80, 4.00, 7.60.

Singspiel recovering

SINGSPIEL is recovering at Hollywood Park after surgeons inserted two screws into his injured right foreleg. The five-year-old broke down as he was completing his final piece of work before the Breeders' Cup Turf. He faces up to eight weeks in the United States before he can return to Europe to take up stallion duties.

Flaked Oats to relish going

WITH upwards of an inch of rain having fallen at Fontwell over the weekend, the mud-loving FLAKED OATS should relish conditions underfoot in the Tote Bookmakers Handicap Chase (2.10) today (Richard Evans writes).

Twice a winner over course and distance last term, Paul Nicholls's chaser would have finished second to the useful Cyborgo but for falling on his only other start. He looks a class above his five rivals and this progressive former pointer can defy top weight before possibly having a crack at the Welsh National.

TONKA, placed on his only two starts over hurdles last season, can put the experience to good use in the opening division of the Autumn Maiden Hurdle (12.40).

Nap: Flaked Oats NB: Tonka

RESULTS FROM SATURDAY'S FIVE MEETINGS

Doncaster

Going: good to soft

12.50 (1m) 1, **Eco Friendly** (D Holland, 7-1); 2, Double Edged (9-1); 3, Achilles (6-4 fav). 22 ran. ½l, 3l. B Hills. Tote: £5.70; £2.30, £3.70, £1.10. DF: £30.20. Trio: £20.10. CSF: £71.87.

1.20 (1m) 1, **Tipperary Sunset** (Mrs L Pearce, 7-1); 2, Ca D Oro (11-1); 3, Mount Holly (6-1 fav); 4, Jibereen (11-1). 23 ran. NR: No Grousing. ½l, 2l. J Quinn. Tote: £6.80; £1.60, £3.50, £1.60, £4.70. DF: £67.40. Trio: £56.10. CSF: £82.91. Tricast: £429.47.

1.50 (7f) 1, **Scene** (L Charnock, 20-1); 2, Abconough (10-1); 3, I Cried For You (14-1); 4, Bali Dance (33-1). Inchalong 4-1 fav. 22 ran. ½l, ½l. M Meade. Tote: £35.20; £7.50, £2.30, £5.60, £21.20. DF: £178.00. Trio: £361.10. CSF: £225.46. Tricast: £1,534.59.

2.25 (1m 4f) 1, **Taufan's Melody** (R Cochrane, 11-4); 2, Tamure (3-1); 3, Durgura (33-1). Annaba 11-8 fav. 10 ran. NR: Moro, Sandmoor Chambray. 13l, 5l. Lady Herries. Tote: £4.60; £1.60, £1.50, £7.30. DF: £6.90. Trio: £352.00. CSF: £10.13.

2.55 (2m 110yd) 1, **Opaque** (J Fortune, 14-1); 2, Galapino (14-1); 3, Moon Colony (10-1); 4, Jawah (4-1 fav). 16 ran. NR: Silence In Court, Trancom. 1¼l, 2l. W Storey. Tote: £29.70; £4.80, £4.30, £2.10, £1.90. DF: £231.20. Trio: £962.60. CSF: £210.02. Tricast: £1,916.53.

3.30 (1m 4f) 1, **Sabadilla** (R Ffrench, 10-1); 2, Taunt (11-2 fav); 3, Shaft Of Light (20-1); 4, Invermark (28-1). 24 ran. 6l, ¾l. J Gosden. Tote: £11.90; £2.70, £2.20, £4.20, £12.70. DF: £34.20. Trio: £278.80. CSF: £53.92. Tricast: £1,055.72.

4.05 (6f) 1, **Snow Kid** (J Fortune, 5-1); 2, My Best Valentine (5-1); 3, Tomba (9-4 fav). 13 ran. NR: Hello Mister. Nk, 4l. D Loder. Tote: £6.10; £2.00, £2.20, £1.80. DF: £22.10. Trio: £10.40. CSF: £29.68.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £14,912.71 was carried forward to Sandown yesterday).

Placepot: £1,080.20. **Quadpot:** £352.20.

Chepstow

12.45 1, **Noisy Miner** (5-4 fav); 2, Edmond (100-30); 3, Shore Party (5-1). 9 ran.

1.15 1, **Pirate Box** (7-4 fav); 2, The Carrot Man (8-1); 3, Fools Errand (4-1). 7 ran.

1.45 1, **Marello** (9-2); 2, Shooting Light (6-1); 3, Potentate (11-4). Moscow Express 6-4 fav. 9 ran.

2.15 1, **Northern Starlight** (5-1); 2, Hurdante (11-1); 3, Romancer (13-2). Forest Ivory (f) 7-4 fav. 7 ran.

2.45 1, **Flutterbud** (50-1); 2, In The Blood (9-4 jt-fav); 3, Carat Rose (9-2). Bavardier 9-4 jt-fav. 9 ran.

3.20 1, **Dom Beltrano** (9-2); 2, Barny Hill Lad (13-2); 3, Dancetillyoudrop (7-2). Albemarle (f) 6-4 fav. 8 ran. NR: Analogue.

3.55 1, **Potter's Gale** (2-1 fav); 2, World Express (9-2); 3, Roufontaine (5-1). 7 ran. NR: Rangitikei.

Newcastle

1.10 1, **La Riviera** (12-1); 2, Shining Edge (1-2 fav); 3, Shahgram (12-1). 5 ran. NR: Prince Of Saints.

1.40 1, **Lord Podgski** (10-11 fav); 2, Jessica One (6-4); 3, Kit Smartie (8-1). 5 ran. NR: Sayyrford Pride.

2.10 1, **Royal Vacation** (9-4 fav); 2, Five-leigh Builds (7-1); 3, Overflowing River (5-2). 5 ran. NR: Sir Peter Lely.

2.40 1, **Star Rage** (7-4); 2, Forestal (13-8 fav); 3, Stash The Cash (9-2). 4 ran.

3.15 1, **Speaker Weatherill** (7-4); 2, Golden Hello (13-8 fav); 3, Blazing Dawn (5-1). 5 ran.

3.50 1, **Berdaroe** (5-4 fav); 2, Dont Forget Curtis (13-8); 3, Puritan (3-1). 3 ran.

Uttoxeter

1.30 1, **Top Javelin** (9-4 fav); 2, Ask Me Later (5-1); 3, Change The Reign (12-1). 6 ran.

2.00 1, **Maralinga** (2-1 fav); 2, Lord Richfield (7-1); 3, Double Star (8-1). 16 ran.

2.30 1, **Callisoe Bay** (10-1); 2, The Last Fling (7-2); 3, Monks Soham (8-1). Destin D'Estruval 11-10 fav. 7 ran.

3.05 1, **Chabrol** (14-1); 2, Hopeful Lord (11-1); 3, Peatings (4-1). Brownes Hill Lad 7-2 fav. 8 ran.

3.40 1, **Lovable Outlaw** (8-1); 2, Jacanto (20-1); 3, Newtown Rose (12-1). Spring Double 7-4 fav. 8 ran.

4.10 1, **Easy Listening** (9-4 fav); 2, Globe Runner (11-4); 3, The Flying Phantom (11-4). 5 ran.

Wincanton

1.05 1, **Dines** (9-1); 2, Tree Creeper (4-1); 3, Andanito (5-4 fav). 11 ran.

1.35 1, **Scoresheet** (3-1 jt-fav); 2, Koo's Promise (14-1); 3, Early Drinker (16-1). Hillhead 3-1 jt-fav. 10 ran.

2.05 1, **Aller Moor** (9-2); 2, Sammorello (14-1); 3, Philatelic (7-1). Snowdon Lily 4-1 fav. 12 ran.

2.35 1, **Name Of Our Father** (6-4 fav); 2, Eau De Cologne (5-2); 3, Sheriff (4-1). 4 ran.

3.10 1, **Lively Knight** (8-1); 2, Glemot (12-1); 3, Baronet (6-1). James Pigg 5-2 fav. 9 ran.

3.45 1, **Pridwell** (4-7 fav); 2, Mr Percy (7-2); 3, Sport Of Fools (40-1). 4 ran.

4.15 1, **Castle Owen** (11-8 fav); 2, Mde Equal (6-4); 3, King Of Thieves (12-1). 10 ran. NR: Salford Quay.

YESTERDAY'S DETAILS

Sandown

Going: good

1.00 (2m hdle) 1, **Tom Tailor** (P Holley, 6-1); 2, Isoci (10-11 fav); 3, Lottytak (9-4). 7 ran. NR: Peter Perfect. 5l, 9l. D Elsworth. Tote: £6.70; £2.50, £1.20. DF: £3.80. CSF: £11.15.

1.30 (2m ch) 1, **Trail Boss** (J Culloty, 5-2); 2, Fed On Oats (8-13 fav); 3, Stratton Flyer (20-1). 6 ran. 17l, dist. Miss H Knight. Tote: £3.80; £1.10, £1.40. DF: £2.00. CSF: £4.09.

2.00 (2m hdle) 1, **Flying Eagle** (A P McCoy, 7-2); 2, Beacon Flight (5-4 fav); 3, Far Dawn (11-8). 3 ran. 2½l, 3½l. R Simpson. Tote: £3.70. DF: £2.00. CSF: £7.28.

2.30 (2m 4f ch) 1, **Philip's Woody** (M A Fitzgerald, 9-2); 2, Red Bean (20-1); 3, Master Boston (5-1). Art Prince (f) 2-1 fav. 6 ran. NR: Strong Medicine. 10l, dist. N Henderson. Tote: £5.10; £2.50, £2.90. DF: £41.30. CSF: £53.36.

3.00 (3m ch) 1, **Danger Baby** (A P McCoy, 13-8 fav); 2, Grey Smoke (7-2); 3, Dextra Dove (8-1). 4 ran. 1¼l, dist. P Bowen. Tote: £2.50. DF: £3.80. CSF: £6.45.

3.35 (2m 6f hdle) 1, **Relative Chance** (J Culloty, 8-1); 2, Jet Boys (7-1); 3, Welsh Silk (4-1 fav). 12 ran. NR: Not To Panic. 4l, 6l. J King. Tote: £9.80; £2.60, £2.70, £2.20. DF: £36.90. CSF: £58.47. Tricast: £238.38.

4.05 (2m flat) 1, **Winston Run** (D Bridgwater, 6-1); 2, Simons Castle (7-4 fav); 3, Goodtime George (11-4). 14 ran. NR: Looking Good. Sh hd, 1l. I Williams. Tote: £6.50; £2.10, £1.50, £1.60. DF: £10.10. Trio: £9.40. CSF: £14.81.

Jackpot: £21,900.00 (0.2 winning tickets. Pool of £24,878.12 carried forward to Lingfield Park today).

Placepot: £204.10.

Quadpot: £242.00.

Warwick

Going: good

12.40 (2m hdle) 1, **Golden Melody** (D Gallagher, 9-2); 2, Circle of Magic (6-1); 3, Don't Worry Mike (10-1). Aficionado 3-1 fav. 12 ran. NR: Madge's Pet, Rush Of Blood. 1l, 18l. M Heaton-Ellis. Tote: £6.10; £1.80, £1.70, £3.10. DF: £27.90. CSF: £26.22. Trio: £92.90.

1.10 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, **Whirly** (A Thornton, 7-2); 2, Sparkling Spring (evens fav); 3, Mr Moonlight (2-1). 4 ran. NR: Northern Starlight. 8l, dist. R Alner. Tote: £3.90. DF: £2.20. CSF: £7.00.

1.40 (2m 3f hdle) 1, **Star Market** (Mr S Joynes, 7-2); 2, Jazzman (10-1); 3, Barford Sovereign (100-30 fav). 7 ran. 6l, 3½l. N Twiston-Davies. Tote: £3.80; £2.70, £2.80. DF: £21.00. CSF: £30.60.

2.10 (2m ch) 1, **Who's To Say** (P Pritchard, 7-1); 2, Indian Run (5-2); 3, Dawn Chance (40-1). Lobster Cottage 2-1 fav. 8 ran. NR: Alpine Mist, Dr Rochet, Flaming Miracle. 4l, 3½l. P Pritchard. Tote: £8.50; £1.70, £1.60, £6.90. DF: £11.10. CSF: £24.01. Tricast: £602.31. Trio: £106.00.

2.40 (2m hdle) 1, **A S Jim** (E Husband, 11-2); 2, Evezio Rufo (8-1); 3, Almapa (11-4 fav). 6 ran. NR: Aldington Chapple, Chantalinsola, Rain-N-Sun. 7l, sh hd. O O'Neill. Tote: £5.40; £2.20, £2.60. DF: £30.50. Trio: £15.70. CSF: £33.81. Tricast: £99.72.

3.10 (3m 2f ch) 1, **The Gopher** (W Marston, 7-2); 2, Church Law (6-1); 3, Drumhane (7-2). Buck Jakes 9-4 fav. 5 ran. 7l, dist. D Windle. Tote: £4.10; £1.60, £2.50. DF: £19.40. CSF: £20.40.

3.45 (2m flat) 1, **Knock Leader** (G Supple, evens fav); 2, Polar Lord (12-1); 3, Bramshaw Wood (6-1). 11 ran. 16l, 5l. M Pipe. Tote: £2.20; £1.80, £2.20, £3.80. DF: £13.00. Trio: £24.90. CSF: £16.94.

Placepot: £1,928.40. **Quadpot:** £63.00.

Wetherby

Going: good

12.50 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, **Its Grand** (J Power, 3-1); 2, Aydar (11-4 fav); 3, Strong John (4-1). 9 ran. 10l, 8l. W Turner. Tote: £3.90; £1.40, £1.30, £1.40. DF: £9.30. Trio: £6.20. CSF: £10.96. Tricast: £29.55.

1.20 (2m 7f hdle) 1, **Indicator** (A Maguire, 1-3 fav); 2, Torus Spa (6-1); 3, Jowoody (7-1). 4 ran. NR: Noukari. 26l, 8l. J Quinn. Tote: £1.30. DF: £1.70. CSF: £2.33.

1.50 (2m hdle) 1, **Elusive Star** (G Lee, 25-1); 2, Caulker (33-1); 3, Scotton Green (7-4). Tendad 11-8 fav. 8 ran. 1¾l, 6l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £30.10; £4.70, £4.00, £1.30. DF: £245.20. CSF: £423.97. Tricast: £2,000.48.

2.20 (3m 1f ch) 1, **Strath Royal** (M Brennan, 5-1); 2, Sounds Strong (11-10 fav); 3, Chopwell Curtains (4-1). 5 ran. NR: The Last Fling. Nk, 30l. O Brennan. Tote: £4.70; £1.50, £1.40. DF: £2.70. CSF: £9.58.

2.50 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, **Glenbower** (Mr C Bonner, 11-2); 2, Global Legend (11-4 fav); 3, Sam Champagne (6-1). 14 ran. ½l, 10l. M Hammond. Tote: £6.50; £2.10, £2.30, £1.80. DF: £8.50. Trio: £36.10. CSF: £20.99.

3.25 (2m ch) 1, **High Mood** (D J Kavanagh, 33-1); 2, Flat Top (14-1); 3, Minster Glory (7-2). Dawn Mission 5-2 fav. 10 ran. 3l, 14l. T George. Tote: £44.10; £6.80, £3.10, £1.70. DF: £110.00. Trio: £345.80. CSF: £389.22. Tricast: £1,862.24.

3.55 (2m flat) 1, **Wynyard Knight** (P Niven, evens fav); 2, Roman Outlaw (16-1); 3, Mr Tees Components (12-1). 22 ran. ¾l, 12l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £2.60; £1.50, £10.20, £4.10. DF: £85.50. Trio: £98.40. CSF: £25.08.

Placepot: £103.00. **Quadpot:** £43.40.

RACELINE
0930 168+
COMMENTARY RESULTS
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FONTWELL 102 202
LINGFIELD 103 203
FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

CARLISLE

THUNDERER

1.00 Troubled Man. 1.30 Lifebuoy. 2.00 Leap In The Dark. 2.30 Lord Of The West. 3.00 Workingforpeanuts. 3.30 Tighter Budget. 4.00 Kings Measure.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

1.00 BOWNESS NOVICES HURDLE (£2,262: 3m 110yd) (5 runners)

1 413 GALE AHEAD 16 (BF,D,F,G) G M Moore 7-11-5 B Storey 112
2 0-2 ARCTIC FOX 38 Mrs M Reveley 5-10-12 P Niven 119
3 0-2 CELTIC DUKE 10 N Hammond 5-10-12 R Garrity 104
4 KING PIP D Lamb 5-10-12 J Burke —
5 4-0 TROUBLED MAN 5 G Richards 6-10-12 A Dobbin —

7-4 Celtic Duke, 2-1 Arctic Fox, 3-1 Gale Ahead, 7-1 Troubled Man, 25-1 King Pip.

1.30 TARDY-GATE, LEYLAND NOVICES CHASE (£3,501: 2m 4f 110yd) (5)

1 -12 ETERNAL CITY 10 (F,G) G Richards 6-11-5 A Dobbin 114
2 54- CROFTON LAKE 271 (F) J Dixon 9-10-12 B Storey 89
3 F-2 LIFEBUOY 8 (D,G) J Turner 6-10-12 R Supple 109
4 093 NEWTON MIST 10 Mrs S Smith 6-10-12 R Guest 83
5 PP- POLITICAL DIAMOND 226P J Charlton 6-10-7 K Johnson —

4-5 Eternal City, 11-4 Lifebuoy, 5-1 Newton Mist, 8-1 Crofton Lake, 33-1 Political Diamond.

2.00 BLACKWELL NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,388: 2m 4f 110yd) (6)

1 314 LEAP IN THE DARK 9 (CD,F,S) Miss L Siddall 8-12-0 S Wynne 99
2 42- PARSON'S LODGE 170 (BF,G) L Lungo 9-11-5 R Supple 96
3 40- MIKE STAN 234 (S) L Lungo 6-11-5 W Dowling (7) 91
4 -88 RAINING STAIRS 30 G Richards 6-10-9 A Dobbin 97
5 6P- POINT DUTY 212 F Murtagh 7-10-0 B Storey 86
6 30U MEADOWLECK 3 W Young 8-10-0 S Taylor (5) 85

6-4 Leap In The Dark, 5-2 Parson's Lodge, 3-1 Raining Stairs, 6-1 Mike Stan, 20-1 Point Duty, 25-1 Meadowleck.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Lingfield Park: 12.20 Shegardi

2.30 LUCIUS CHALLENGE CUP HANDICAP CHASE (£5,405: 3m) (2)

1 F-1 LORD OF THE WEST 16 (CD,F,G,S) J J O'Neill 8-11-10 P Carberry 128
2 0P- PENNINE PRIDE 242 (C,D,G,S) M Hammond 10-10-9 R Garrity 122

1-4 Lord Of The West, 9-1 Pennine Pride.

3.00 CASTLE HOTEL, ACCRINGTON HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,206: 3m 110yd) (3)

1 123 ACAJOU III 27 (D,F,G) G Richards 9-12-0 P Carberry 109
2 152 BALLINDOO 11 (C,D,F,G) R Armson 8-10-10 Mr R Armson 116
3 14- WORKINGFORPEANUTS 226 (D,F,S) C Smith 7-10-0 Mrs D Smith 110

4-5 Acajou III, 2-1 Ballindoo, 9-2 Workingforpeanuts.

3.30 CROSSWAYS, GRETNA HANDICAP CHASE (£4,683: 2m 4f 110yd) (3)

1 222 TIGHTER BUDGET 9 (BF,D,F,G,S) Mrs D Sayer 10-11-10 A Dobbin 125
2 33- BOLD ACCOUNT 194 (D,G) G M Moore 7-10-10 B Storey 120
3 3P- CORSTON JOKER 207 (D,G) L Lungo 7-10-6 R Supple 116

4-6 Tighter Budget, 3-1 Bold Account, 7-2 Corston Joker.

4.00 CROSS FELL STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,035: 2m 1f) (10)

1 1- KINGS MEASURE 205 (G) J Jefferson 4-11-11 E Callaghan (3) —
2 1 SOTATTIE 16 (CD,F) Mrs S Smith 4-11-6 R Wilkinson (5) —
3 4 C'MON TIGER 51 Dianne Sayer 5-11-4 R McGrath (5) —
4 00- HOLLOW PALM 224 L Lungo 6-11-4 R Supple —
5 SEVEN MILE GALE G Richards 5-11-4 M Moloney —
6 00- SHANNON SHOON 258 Mrs A Naughton 5-11-4 M Foster —
7 9 TRIX OF THE TRADE 5 G Richards 4-11-4 R Burns (7) —
8 MAYDOO C Parker 4-10-13 B Storey —
9 0- NEEDLE THREAD 205 G Richards 5-10-13 A Dobbin —
10 0- SWIFTLY SUPREME 212 T Cuthbert 4-10-13 Mr T Davidson (7) —

7-4 Kings Measure, 3-1 Sotattie, 6-1 Seven Mile Gale, 8-1 C'Mon Tiger, Needle Thread, 10-1 Maydoo, 12-1 Trix of The Trade, 33-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley, 32 winners from 103 runners, 31.1%; J Jefferson, 15 from 58, 25.9%; G Richards, 31 from 151, 20.5%; Mrs S Smith, 11 from 73, 15.1%; L Lungo, 13 from 88, 14.8%.

JOCKEYS: P Niven, 30 winners from 109 rides, 27.5%; P Carberry, 8 from 32, 25.0%; A Dobbin, 24 from 134, 17.9%; R Guest, 9 from 63, 14.3%; J Burke, 7 from 50, 14.0%; M Foster, 5 from 37, 13.5%.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

12.20 Sada. 12.50 Hit The Spot. 1.20 Truth Teller. 1.50 Sipowitz. 2.20 Mozambique. 2.50 Welcome Heights. 3.20 Moscow Mist. 3.50 Puzzlement.

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW BEST
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

12.20 NEWMARKET MAIDEN STAKES (Div I: 2-Y-O: £2,933: 5f) (8 runners)

101 000 HOUSE ON FIRE 24 J Berry 9-0 C Lowther (3) 3
102 02 MITCH PASSI 25 M Prescott 9-0 G Duffield 5
103 ROGER ROSS R Flower 9-0 J Lowe 2
104 222 SHEGARDI 143 (B) D Loder 9-0 G Faulkner (5) 4
105 300 VISTA ALEGRE 50 P Makin 9-0 D Sweeney (3) 6
106 5 MISS MONEY SPIDER 31 R Hannon 8-9 Dane O'Neill 1
107 60 NEWALA 33 W Haggas 8-9 F Lynch 8
108 024 SADA 34 C Dwyer 8-9 R Cochrane 7

4-6 Shegardi, 5-2 Mitch Passi, 7-1 Miss Money Spider, 14-1 Sada, 20-1 House On Fire, 25-1 Vista Alegre, Newala, 33-1 Roger Ross.

12.50 NEWMARKET MAIDEN STAKES (Div II: 2-Y-O: £2,916: 5f) (8)

201 BIT OF A LAD R Flower 9-0 J Lowe 7
202 30 HEVER GOLF MACHINE 85 T Naughton 9-0 A McGlone 3
203 66 HOPEFUL STAR 14 Miss G Kelleway 9-0 A Whelan (3) 8
204 000 MY TYSON 10 K Mahdi 9-0 R Cochrane 2
205 0 APPIAN DAME 25 D Murray Smith 8-9 Dane O'Neill 5
206 00 CLANCLUE CHICK 13 J Berry 8-9 P Roberts (3) 1
207 32 HIT THE SPOT 14 W Haggas 8-9 F Lynch 4
208 INDIAN SPLENDOUR R Guest 8-9 Martin Dwyer 6

2-1 Hever Golf Machine, 5-2 Hopeful Star, 6-1 Hit The Spot, 7-1 My Tyson, 8-1 Clanclue Chick, 10-1 Indian Splendour, 14-1 Appian Dame, 33-1 Bit Of A Lad.

1.20 WANTAGE NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £2,791: 6f) (9)

301 231 SANTA FAYE 21 (D,F) B Palling 9-7 T Sprake 9
302 23 MARY JANE 13 (F) J Berry 8-11 P Fessey (3) 5
303 303 POLISH PILOT 25 R Muir 8-11 Martin Dwyer 8
304 010 TRUTH TELLER 16 (D,F) R Hannon 8-10 Dane O'Neill 7
305 243 MONTANO 18 P Cole 8-9 David O'Neill (7) 2
306 155 RAPID RELIANCE 4 (BF,G) R Ingram 8-8 A McGlone 6
307 565 ITALIAN ROSE 49 W Musson 8-2 D O'Shea 1
308 006 PHANTOM RING 12 A Bailey 8-1 R Ffrench (3) 4
309 555 LITTLE FIZZ 41 B Meehan 8-0 Dale Gibson 3

3-1 Montano, 7-2 Mary Jane, 5-1 Rapid Reliance, 7-1 Santa Faye, Polish Pilot, Truth Teller, [illegible] 8-1 others.

1.50 LAMBOURN HANDICAP (£2,294: 2m) (14)

401 520 DURHAM 46 (B,F,G) G L Moore 6-10-0 M Wigham 14
402 300 FOURDANED 31 S Dow 4-9-2 P Doe (7) 11
403 464 BRECON 123 W Muir 4-9-2 Martin Dwyer 6
404 520 INDIGO DAWN 21 (B,BF,D,G) M Johnston 3-9-2 Dean McKeown 2
405 042 NILE VALLEY 41 P Chapple-Hyam 3-9-0 S Whitworth 12
406 302 PADAUK 45 M Haynes 3-9-0 T Sprake 9
407 211 SIPOWITZ 21 (CD,F,G) C Cyzer 3-9-0 T Quinn 13
408 400 HAPPY MEDIUM 131 G Enright 4-9-0 N Adams 5
409 006 BROUGHTONS FORMULA 23 (B,CD,F,G) W Musson 7-8-13 D O'Shea 3
410 840 GOOD REPUTATION 24 B Hills 3-8-10 R Cochrane 4
411 550 ROYAL CIRCUS 16J (C,F,S) P Hiatt 8-8-3 P Fessey (3) 10
412 215 RANGER SLOANE 35 (BF,D,G) G Fierro 5-7-12 N Carlisle 8
413 400 SIGNED AND SEALED 21 G Cyzer 3-7-12 A Whelan (3) 7
414 064 ROSE OF GLENN 12 (C,F,G) B Palling 6-7-10 J Quinn 1

4-1 Sipowitz, 6-1 Padauk, 7-1 Nile Valley, Ranger Sloane, 8-1 Brecon, Rose Of Glenn, 10-1 Durham, Indigo Dawn, 12-1 others.

2.20 EPSOM MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,700: 7f) (7)

501 CRACKER G Fierro 9-0 N Carlisle 5
502 206 HYPE SUPERIOR 21 A Bailey 9-0 D Wright 7
503 352 MOZAMBIQUE 21 Mrs J Cecil 9-0 R Ffrench (3) 6
504 043 DAINTREE 21 (V) H Collingridge 8-9 J Quinn 4
505 000 FORWARD MISS 20 C Benstead 8-9 R Cochrane 1
506 000 MISCONDUCT 14 G L Moore 8-9 S Whitworth 2
507 64 SILVER MARBLE 40 R Hannon 8-9 Dane O'Neill 3

4-7 Mozambique, 9-2 Daintree, 6-1 Hype Superior, 12-1 Silver Marble, 20-1 Misconduct, 25-1 Cracker, 33-1 Forward Miss.

2.50 MIDDLEHAM LIMITED STAKES (£2,294: 1m 2f) (14)

601 501 FATHER DAN 43 (CD,F,G) Miss G Kelleway 8-9-4 J Wilkinson (7) 3
602 000 AWESOME POWER 14 (CD,G) J Hills 11-9-2 A Clark 13
603 000 CAPTAIN'S DAY 37 (CD,F,G) H Collingridge 5-9-2 G Faulkner (5) 11
604 042 SMARTER CHARTER 49 (F,G) Mrs L Stubbs 4-9-2 S Whitworth 10
605 000 THALEROS 6 (D,F) J Wainwright 7-9-2 Dean McKeown 12
606 420 WELCOME HEIGHTS 11 (BF,G,S) M Fetherston-Godley 3-9-2 F Norton 14
607 000 WHO'S THAT MAN 17 (B,D,F) S C Williams 3-9-2 Dane O'Neill 6
608 311 BE TRUE 18 (F) G L Moore 3-9-0 Candy Morris 8
609 002 REHAAB 14 (V,D,F) Miss B Sanders 4-8-13 R Ffrench (3) 2
610 000 TARTAN PARTY 161 W Muir 3-8-12 Martin Dwyer 9
611 000 FLYING COLOURS 11 C Benstead 3-8-9 R Cochrane 7
612 500 MIAMI MOON 7 G Johnson Houghton 3-8-9 W Ryan 1
613 000 POINTELLE 10 A Hide 3-8-9 A McGlone 5
614 400 ZANABAY 117 G Fierro 3-8-9 N Carlisle 4

3-1 Smarter Charter, 4-1 Be True, 9-2 Father Dan, 5-1 Welcome Heights, 6-1 Rehaab, 12-1 Awesome Power, 16-1 Captain's Day, 20-1 others.

3.20 LADBROKE ALL-WEATHER TROPHY HANDICAP (Qualifier: Div I: £2,998: 1m) (12)

1 243 BANZHAF 43 (CD,F) G L Moore 4-10-0 A Clark 2
2 026 DELTA SOLEIL 54 (D,F) P Harris 5-9-11 M Rimmer 4
3 046 PLAN FOR PROFIT 9 (F,G) M Johnston 3-9-7 Dean McKeown 1
4 000 MOSCOW MIST 13 (D,F) B Palling 6-9-5 T Sprake 12
5 004 VARNISHING DAY 93 (G) P Chapple-Hyam 5-9-4 S Whitworth 6
6 193 ROBELLION 21 (CD,F,G) D Arbuthnot 6-9-1 Martin Dwyer 5
7 005 IMPULSIF 9 (G) D Ffrench Davis 3-8-13 G Milligan (5) 7
8 800 MR PARADISE 23 (D,F,S) R Cowell 3-8-11 F Lynch 9
9 054 MUTABARI 11 K Mahdi 3-8-9 R Cochrane 3
10 880 CONFRONTER 87 (E,C,D,F,G,S) S Dow 8-8-4 J Quinn 11
11 030 HUSTLE AN BUSTLE 25 G Fierro 3-8-2 N Carlisle 10
12 0-0 NARBONNE 18 (D,G) B McMath 6-7-10 P Doe (7) 8

7-2 Delta Soleil, 9-2 Plan For Profit, 11-2 Banzhaf, 6-1 Robellion, 8-1 Moscow Mist, 10-1 Varnishing Day, Mutabari, 12-1 others.

3.50 LADBROKE ALL-WEATHER TROPHY HANDICAP (Qualifier: Div II: £2,981: 1m) (11)

1 541 TWIN CREEKS 4 (C,D,F) V Soane 6-10-0 (6ex) R Perham 3
2 000 SHARP SHUFFLE 4 (BF,D,F,G) R Hannon 4-9-11 Dane O'Neill 9
3 035 KAILEY SENOR 19 (G) R Armstrong 4-9-5 F Norton 10
4 000 SOAKING 33 (CD,F) M Usher 7-9-4 P McCabe (5) 5
5 000 TISSUE OF LIES 40 (CD) B Akehurst 4-9-4 T Quinn 8
6 200 STEP ON DEGAS 14 (BF,C,F) M Fetherston-Godley 4-8-13 R Ffrench (3) 7
7 600 NORDINEX 17 (CD,F,G) D Elsworth 5-8-12 S Drowne 1
8 006 PUZZLEMENT 56 (CD) C Brittain 3-8-8 W Ryan 6
9 000 MUHANDIS 16 (F) G L Moore 4-8-6 Candy Morris 2
10 605 SHONTAINE 4 (C,D,F,G) M Johnston 4-8-3 I Grantham (7) 4
11 210 THE GREEN GREY 33 (D,F) W Muir 3-7-10 Martin Dwyer 11

7-2 Twin Creeks, 9-2 Tissue Of Lies, 7-1 Sharp Shuffle, The Green Grey, 8-1 Kailey Senor, Step On Degas, Shontaine, 10-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: D Loder, 20 winners from 57 runners, 35.1%; V Soane, 4 from 14, 28.6%; M Prescott, 25 from 113, 22.1%; J Berry, 35 from 170, 20.6%; M Johnston, 56 from 297, 18.9%; R Armstrong, 17 from 91, 18.7%.

JOCKEYS: G Milligan, 6 winners from 24 rides, 25.0%; J Wilkinson, 6 from 31, 19.4%; R Cochrane, 67 from 390, 17.2%; D McKeown, 20 from 124, 16.1%; W Ryan, 31 from 199, 15.6%.

FONTWELL PARK

THUNDERER

12.40 Tonka
1.10 The Executor
1.40 Marius
2.10 Flaked Oats
2.40 Harbet House
3.10 Northern Saddler
3.40 CALVARO (nap)

Timekeeper's top rating: 2.40 GERRY'S PRIDE.

[illegible] RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Timekeeper's speed rating.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT SIS

12.40 AUTUMN MAIDEN HURDLE (Div I: £2,014: 2m 2f 110yd) (9 runners)

1 45P2 IT'S WALLACE 19 (G West, W Charlton & J Tour) J Poulton 4-11-5 J Culloty 75
2 1- MESA VERDE 230 (D,G) (Mrs P Cooper) K Bailey 6-11-5 J Osborne —
3 52-F PINKERTON'S PAL 13 (J Joseph) J Joseph 6-11-5 C Llewellyn 101
4 PROCEED (G Redmond) J Gifford 5-11-5 P Hide —
5 0- RIVER MONARCH 352 (B White) R Rowe 6-11-5 D O'Sullivan —
6 32- TONKA 131F (BF) (Mrs C A Webster) D Gandolfo 5-11-5 A Maguire 89
7 /484P- TUDOR TOWN 184 (P Purdy) P Purdy 9-11-5 S Burrough 76
8 284- ARDENBAR 381 (T Wyatt) J W Payne 5-11-0 A Thornton —
9 5P- SMART IN VELVET 357 (Mrs J Elizabeth Hooker) P Hedger 7-11-0 I Lawrence —

BETTING: 5-2 Mesa Verde, 7-2 Tonka, 5-1 Proceed, 6-1 Pinkerton's Pal, Ardenbar, 8-1 It's Wallace, 14-1 others.

1996: GLORIANA 4-11-0 M A Fitzgerald (11-4 fav) Lady Herries 11 ran

It's Wallace 15l 2nd to Tulchev in 2¼m Exeter novice hurdle (good). Mesa Verde beat Limit The Damage 7l in 2¼m Wexford flat race (good). Pinkerton's Pal every chance when fell two out behind Circus Star in 2¼m Cheltenham maiden hurdle (good). Proceed, Blakeney gelding, out of Sayida-Shahira. River Monarch 62l 8th to Resist The Force in 2m Ascot novice hurdle (good to firm). Tonka 6l 2nd to Rhythm And Blues in 2m1f Plumpton novice hurdle (heavy). Ardenbar 21l 4th to Boots Madden in 2m Fakenham National Hunt flat race (good).

TONKA will appreciate the cut in the ground and can open his account over hurdles

1.10 FORD SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,881: 2m 2f 110yd) (10 runners)

1 43/3 MOST WELCOME NEWS 21 (A Rebi) G L Moore 5-11-13 A P McCoy 75
2 045032 STAPLEFORD LADY 12 (CD,F) (P & Mrs S Fry) J S Moore 9-11-6 Mr S Durack (7) 99
3 /86-36 THE EXECUTOR 28 (F) (J Joseph) R O'Sullivan 7-11-3 C Llewellyn 103
4 4P-FFP TAKE A FLYER 6 (B,G,S) (R Osborne) R Hodges 7-11-0 T Dascombe —
5 /P0-01 KING CURAN 12 (B,CD,G) (P Bowling) P Bowen 6-10-7 R Johnson 88
6 0-P305 ANTIGUA'S TREASURE 6 (Marsh Mills Pairs) A Barrow 8-10-6 Mr O McPhail (7) 88
7 054/05 NEVEROLD 11 (S) (White Family) M Muggeridge 7-10-5 S Curran 80
8 /060-5 CORPORATE IMAGE 6 (Mrs W Hasiam) R Simpson 7-10-0 A Maguire 86
9 4FPP-3 MEMORY'S MUSIC 7 (W Roker) M Madgwick 5-10-0 B Fenton 88
10 P/000- VERRO 90F (P Purdy) P Purdy 10-10-9 M Griffiths (7) 71

Long handicap: Memory's Music 9-13, Verro 9-7.

BETTING: 9-4 King Curan, 3-1 Stapleford Lady, 5-1 The Executor, 7-1 Most Welcome News, 8-1 Antigua's Treasure, Corporate Image, 16-1 Neverold, 20-1 others.

1996: SPRINTFAYRE 8-10-0 D Gallagher (12-1) J Long 15 ran

Most Welcome News 24l 3rd to Steam On in 2m1f Plumpton claiming hurdle (good). The Executor 47l last of 6 to Ashwell Boy in 2m Newton Abbot novice chase (good to firm). King Curan beat Stapleford Lady (4lb better off) 1¼l in 2¼m Fontwell selling handicap hurdle (good). Antigua's Treasure beaten a distance 5th to The Brewer in 2m3f Exeter novice handicap hurdle (good to soft). Neverold 18l 5th to Fijoa in 2m Stratford selling hurdle (good). Corporate Image 39l 5th to Auburn Boy in 2m Warwick claiming hurdle (good to firm) with Take A Flyer (20lb worse off) pulled up. Memory's Music beaten a distance 3rd to Hal Hoo Yaroom in 2m1f Plumpton novice claiming hurdle (good to firm). Verro 28l 11th to Night Time in 2m Stratford selling handicap hurdle (good).

NEVEROLD shaped well last time and can return to form

1.40 WALBERTON NOVICES CHASE (£2,891: 2m 3f) (6 runners)

1 2256-1 THURSDAY NIGHT 28 (F,S) (B Bloman) P Nicholls 6-11-5 T J Murphy 119
2 U013-3 TIGHT FIST 19 (F,S) (Mrs A Davis) Miss H Knight 7-11-5 J F Titley 113
3 13P1/4 LAYITONTHELINE 60 (G,S) (P Rogers) R Frost 8-10-12 J Frost —
4 12/25- LITTLE BUCK 345 (S) (Mrs C Zetter-Wells) L Wells 9-10-12 L Aspell (3) —
5 12423- MARIUS 199 (S) (Miss Jessica Andrews) J Gifford 7-10-12 P Hide —
6 503/6- THUHOOL 380 (G,S) (C Cornwell) R Rowe 9-10-12 D O'Sullivan —

BETTING: 7-4 Thursday Night, 3-1 Tight Fist, 7-2 Marius, 9-2 Little Buck, 14-1 Thuhool, 20-1 Layitontheline.

1996: OBAN 6-10-12 G Bradley (5-1) Miss H Knight 7 ran.

Thursday Night beat Faustino 25l in 2¾m Newton Abbot novice chase (good to firm). Tight Fist 4l 3rd to Keep Me In Mind in 2¼m Exeter novice handicap chase (good). Layitontheline 52l 4th to Thefieldsofathenry in 2¾m Newton Abbot novice chase (good). Little Buck 15l 5th to What A Question in 3m Newbury grade II hurdle (good). Marius 1¼l 3rd to Mionnale Forte in 2m Ascot handicap hurdle (good to firm). Thuhool 14l 6th to Steadfast Elite in 2m Worcester handicap hurdle (good).

MARIUS, a useful hurdler from an in-form yard, can make a winning debut over fences

2.10 TOTE BOOKMAKERS HANDICAP CHASE (£4,240: 3m 2f 110yd) (6 runners)

1 1/1F1- FLAKED OATS 266 (CD,F,G,S) (E Scarfield) P Nicholls 8-11-10 T J Murphy 116
2 114-F3 FUNCHEON GALE 14 (D,F,G,S) (Kings Of The Road Plant) R Curtis 10-11-7 D Morris 112
3 34121- CREDON 214 (CD,F,G,S) (Fedler Racing) S Woodman 9-11-5 B Fenton 120
4 B23P-4 MAMMY'S CHOICE 21 (S) (D Young) R Alner 7-10-13 A Thornton 118
5 43355- MASTER COMEDY 168 (B,CD,F,S) (Miss J Wilkinson) Miss L Bower 13-10-0 D Gallagher 96
6 P24-34 JOKER JACK 7 (D,F,S) (R Dean) R Dean 12-10-0 T Dascombe 86

Long handicap: Master Comedy 9-8, Joker Jack 8-9.

BETTING: 5-4 Flaked Oats, 5-2 Credon, 4-1 Funcheon Gale, 6-1 Mammy's Choice, 20-1 Master Comedy, 33-1 Joker Jack.

1996: BALLY CLOVER 9-11-5 R Farrant (5-4 fav) Miss V Williams 4 ran

Flaked Oats beat Woodlands Boy 1¼l in 3¼m Fontwell handicap chase (soft) with Credon (4lb better off) 31l 3rd. Funcheon Gale 9½l 3rd to The Whole Hog in 3m1f Towcester handicap chase (good to firm). Credon beat Sugar Hill 2l in 3¼m Fontwell handicap chase (good to firm) with Master Comedy (7lb better off) 4l 3rd. Mammy's Choice 14l 4th to Black Church in 2m5f Plumpton handicap chase (good). Master Comedy 37l 5th to Red Branch in 3¼m Fontwell handicap chase (good to firm). Joker Jack beaten a distance 4th to Normarange in 2m5f Plumpton handicap chase (good to firm).

FLAKED OATS is hard to oppose in a weak contest

2.40 STREBEL BOILERS AND RADIATORS HANDICAP HURDLE (Qualifier: £2,322: 2m 6f 110yd) (7 runners)

1 F1F6- HARBET HOUSE 21F (S) (C Washbourn) R O'Sullivan 4-12-0 J Osborne 113
2 52124- LORD ROOBLE 226 (S) (Paddon Partnership) J Gifford 6-11-5 P Hide 98
3 61422- DRUM BATTLE 200 (F) (D Chown) W G M Turner 5-10-11 A Thornton 112
4 4033-4 BEN BOWDEN 12 (F) (Mrs N Maltby) S Woodman 4-10-6 L Aspell (3) 111
5 131113 GERRY'S PRIDE 9 (CD,F,G) (G Heard) J Mullins 6-10-3 A Maguire 128
6 214-36 MYSTIC HILL 20 (F) (J Joseph) R Frost 6-10-0 C Llewellyn 121
7 P2P4P- DARING KING 224 (CD,F,S) (Classy Stables) M Bolton 7-10-0 R Johnson 113

Long handicap: Daring King 9-12.

BETTING: 5-2 Gerry's Pride, 4-1 Drum Battle, 5-1 Lord Rooble, Mystic Hill, 6-1 Harbet House, 8-1 Ben Bowden, 12-1 Daring King.

1996: MOMENT OF GLORY 5-11-13 G Bradley (9-1) D Gandolfo 7 ran

Harbet House 20l 6th to Zander in 2½m Ayr novice hurdle (good). Lord Rooble 22l 4th to Sparkling Spring in 2½m Plumpton novice hurdle (good to firm). Drum Battle 10l 2nd to Galatasori Jane in 2m 6½f novice hurdle here (good to firm). Ben Bowden 7¼l 4th to Canton Venture in 2m 2½f handicap hurdle here (good). Gerry's Pride 15l 3rd to Supreme Charm in 2½m Ascot novice handicap hurdle (good). Mystic Hill beaten a distance when 6th to Tidal Force in 2m 4½f Chepstow handicap hurdle (good).

GERRY'S PRIDE runs this course well and can beat Mystic Hill

3.10 NOVEMBER HANDICAP CHASE (£3,590: 2m 2f) (5 runners)

1 23450- NO PAIN NO GAIN 205 (BF,D,G,S) (Marvellous Partnership) J Gifford 9-12-0 P Hide 128
2 0U5P-4 BORO VACATION 28 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs C Paterson) P Nicholls 8-11-13 T J Murphy 100
3 63/43- NORTHERN SADDLER 362 (D,F,G,S) (R Evans) R Hodges 10-11-12 A P McCoy 106
4 32/1F- AEDEAN 374 (C,F,S) (M Orpen-Palmer) G Enright 8-10-5 A Maguire —
5 52P-21 PARLIAMENTARIAN 14 (F,G) (J Wales) T Casey 8-10-3 D Gallagher 140

BETTING: 7-4 Parliamentarian, 5-2 No Pain No Gain, 3-1 Northern Saddler, 6-1 Boro Vacation, 8-1 Aedean

1996: NEWLANDS-GENERAL 10-12-0 A P McCoy (5-4 fav) P Nicholls 4 ran

No Pain No Gain 45l 8th to Monyman in 2m Ayr handicap chase (good). Boro Vacation 12l last of 4 to Amlah in 2m Newton Abbot handicap chase (good to firm). Northern Saddler 17l 3rd to Super Tactics in 2m1f Newbury handicap chase (good). Aedean pulled up in 2½m Bangor handicap chase (good). Parliamentarian beat Debelle 28l in 2m Towcester handicap chase (good to firm).

PARLIAMENTARIAN looks handily weighted to follow up Towcester victory

3.40 AUTUMN MAIDEN HURDLE (Div II: £1,993: 2m 2f 110yd) (9 runners)

1 6/20-3 CALVARO 13 (B Naylor) J Gifford 6-11-5 L Aspell (3) 92
2 PF0-0 DESERT MELODY 156 (Mrs P Crocker) R Rowe 5-11-5 D O'Sullivan —
3 GUEST ALLIANCE 202F (Ballard (1834) Ltd) G L Moore 5-11-5 A P McCoy —
4 00- MEGA TID 142F (Come Racing Ltd) J Poulton 5-11-5 J Magee (5) —
5 20-04 NORMANIA 12 (M Pinto) Miss S Edwards 5-11-5 P Hide 71
6 63 ROCKY'S PROFILES 6 (Extenor Profiles Ltd) Miss K George 4-11-5 D Bridgwater 70
7 B- CLAREGARY 280 (C Cornwell) R Rowe 4-11-0 A Garrity (7) —
8 150FP- NORTH END LADY 270 (F) (Gallagher Equine Ltd) Mrs L Jewell 6-11-0 J R Kavanagh —
9 60 THE JOLLY BARMAID 18 (J Woolford) R Alner 4-11-0 P Holley 60

BETTING: 5-4 Calvaro, 5-2 Guest Alliance, 6-1 Normania, 8-1 Claregary, 16-1 Rocky's Profiles, North End Lady, 25-1 Desert Melody, The Jolly Barmaid, 33-1 Mega Tid.

1996: CLAIRESWAN 4-11-5 K Gaule (5-1) M Tompkins 11 ran

Calvaro 1½l 3rd of 9 to Circus Star in 2m Cheltenham maiden hurdle (good). Desert Melody 53l 10th to Review Board in 2m Worcester NH Flat race (good). Mega Tid beaten a distance when 7th to The Flying Doctor in 2m Towcester novice selling hurdle (good). Normania 27l 4th to Lady Rebecca in 2m 5f Cheltenham novice hurdle (good to firm). Rocky's Profiles beaten a distance when last of 3 to Royal Action in 2m 3f Warwick novice hurdle (good to firm). Claregary 19l 8th to Macy in 2¼m Fontwell NH Flat race (good to firm).
The Jolly Barmaid 46l 7th to Polo Ridge in 2¾m Wincanton novice hurdle (good).

CALVARO has good chance on promising Cheltenham effort

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
P Nicholls	14	32	43.8	J Osborne	17	54	31.5
R Alner	13	52	25.0	T J Murphy	7	26	26.9
K Bailey	8	32	25.0	A McCoy	21	91	23.1
J Gifford	26	125	20.8	P Hide	21	93	22.6
M Bolton	3	15	20.0	D Bridgwater	13	62	21.0
R Curtis	11	68	16.2	J Culloty	3	16	18.8

NATIONAL HUNT LEADERS

TRAINERS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Days since win	Level stake
M Pipe	78	46	19	1	+1.65
D Nicholson	27	12	12	2	+25.50
Mrs M Reveley	26	15	11	1	+19.95
P Hobbs	26	13	15	6	-31.48
P Bowen	26	27	19	1	+1.85
Mrs S Smith	21	25	19	5	-31.87
P Nicholls	15	11	6	2	-9.17
Miss V Williams	12	7	10	12	+28.07

JOCKEYS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Losing sequence	Level stake
A P McCoy	105	69	35	2	-27.72
A Maguire	58	37	27	4	+5.60
R Dunwoody	37	23	17	6	-11.77
R Johnson	37	45	35	10	-14.88
P Niven	24	14	11	0	-1.51
A Thornton	24	21	33	3	-50.89
R Guest	23	28	18	7	-17.00
M A Fitzgerald	21	17	13	2	-1.62

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

CROSS COUNTRY: Ballymena: Veterans International: Men: 9.6km: 1, R Wise (Eng) 31min 37sec; 2, J Estall (Eng) 31:55; 3, D Wilson-Evans (Eng) 32:14; 4, M Gavan (Eng) 32:22; 5, G Brady (Ire) 32:23; 6, L Atkinson (Eng) 32:26. Teams: 1, England 10pts; 2, Republic of Ireland 36; 3, Northern Ireland 61; 4, Scotland 64; 5, Wales 72. Over 45: 1, M Hagar (Eng) 31:54; 2, K Moss (Eng) 32:31; 3, E Jenkins (Sco) 32:47. Teams: 1, England 15; 2, Republic of Ireland 40; 3, Wales 48. Over 50: 1, A Roper (Wales) 33:02; 2, J Buckley (Ire) 33:16; 3, C Youngson (Scot) 33:23. Teams: 1, England 33; 2, Scotland 37; 3, Wales 37. Over 55: 1, P Lancaster (Eng) 34:41; 2, R Highman (Eng) 35:00; 3, L Haynes (Eng) 35:27. Teams: 1, England 6; Wales 21; 3, Republic of Ireland 27. Over 60: 1, D Spencer (Eng) 37:01; 2, C Leigh (Wales) 37:07; 3, L Evans (Wales) 38:25. Teams: 1, England 10; 2, Wales 15; 3, Scotland 33. Overall men's teams: 1, England 25; 2, equal, Wales and Republic of Ireland 15; 4, Scotland 13; 5, Northern Ireland 7. Women: 4.8km: 1, A Carroll (Ire) 18:02; 2, T Thompson (Scot) 18:12; 3, A Fletcher (Eng) 18:16; 4, M Greenham (Ire) 18:24; 5, J Cunningham (Eng) 18:38; 6, W Edwards (Wales) 18:37. Teams: 1, Republic of Ireland 12; 2, England 17; 3, Wales 30; 4, Scotland 30; 5, Northern Ireland 48. Over 40: 1, S Allen (Eng) 18:13; 2, M O'Neill (N Ire) 18:18; 3, J Moorekite (Eng) 18:27. Teams: 1, England 10; 2, Northern Ireland 16; 3, Wales 28. Over 45: 1, Z Marchant (Eng) 18:43; 2, J Heffernan (Eng) 19:19; 3, E Turner (Wales) 19:30. Teams: 1, England 7; 2, Republic of Ireland 25; 3, Wales 25. Overall women's teams: 1, England 19; 2, Republic of Ireland 14; 3, Wales 13.

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Newcastle 88 London 78; Derby 99 Watford 83; Worthing 91 Leicester 85

	P	W	L	Pts
London Towers	10	9	1	18
Thames Valley	9	7	2	14
Leopards	11	7	4	14
Birmingham	6	6	0	12
Newcastle	11	6	5	12
Sheffield	7	5	2	10
Chester	8	5	3	10
Manchester	9	5	4	10
Worthing	12	5	7	10
Leicester	11	4	7	8
Derby	10	3	7	6
Crystal Palace	11	2	9	4
Watford	13	0	13	0

Not including last night's results

UNIBALL TROPHY, North Pool: Sheffield 85 Chester 76.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Coventry 90 Plymouth 117; Mid Sussex 92 Guildford 90; Nottingham 56 Cardiff 69; Oxford 83 Solihull 88. **Women: First division:** Birmingham 69 Thames Valley 53; Ipswich 48 Sheffield 75; Nottingham 53 Northampton 70; Rhondda 50 NW London 52; Spelthorne 68 Crystal Palace 48.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Friday: Cleveland 96 Boston 92; Seattle 99 Indiana 93; Atlanta 80 Chicago 78; Charlotte 107 Washington 92; New Jersey 99 Miami 87; Orlando 89 Detroit 84; Portland 86 Houston 85; Utah 91 Denver 89; Minnesota 108 Vancouver 97; LA Clippers 98 Sacramento 85; LA Lakers 99 New York 94. **Saturday:** Orlando 96 Toronto 87; Miami 114 Washington 105; Atlanta 99 Cleveland 97 (OT); Charlotte 89 Indiana 82; Portland 101 Dallas 94; Chicago 98 New Jersey 86; San Antonio 87 Utah 80; Milwaukee 105 Boston 96; Phoenix 123 LA Clippers 105; Minnesota 97 Golden State 90

BOWLS

KOWLOON: Hong Kong International Pairs Classic: 11th round: Section A: A Jeffrey and M Jacobsen (Aus) bt W Lai and T Choi (Craigengower Cricket Club) 18-14; Z Puteh and A Saidun (Malaysia) bt F Hambly and D Le Marquand (Channel Islands) 16-15; G Baker and N Burkett (SA) bt S A K Bux and J Wassan (Indian Recreation Club) 27-20; D Gourlay and G Robertson (Scot) bt R Tse and W S Chan (Victoria Park) 24-13; S K Chung and A Chu (China Light and Power) bt J Melbourne and K Wallis (Kowloon Cricket Club) 22-15; T Tong and J Wong (HK) bt W Matthews and J Hoskins (Wales) 21-20. B: A Carstairs and N Kennedy (Kowloon Bowling Club) bt K K Yeung and D Ng (HK Police) 30-19; A Poynton and W McMahon (Hong Kong Lawn Bowling Association) bt J Henry and S Allen (Ire) 22-20; D Cheung and G Chan (Hong Kong FC) bt W S Lo and P S Tsang (HK Correctional Services Department) 25-14; M McCormick and W Cumming (Zim) bt K Kadir and K C Ching (HK Electric) 28-17; B McNish and B Baldwin (NZ) bt R Barnett and A Robertson (HK Cricket Club) 22-12; A Wills and S Airey (Eng) bt J Aitken and L Adams (Can) 24-13. Final League positions (after 11 rounds): A: 1, South Africa 18pts (+ 109 shots); 2, Scotland 16 (+114); 3, Australia 16 (+67); 4, Wales 14 (+69); 5, Channel Islands 14 (+17); 6, Hong Kong 12 (+20); 7, Kowloon Cricket Club 12 (-39); 8, Craigengower Cricket Club 8 (-17); 9, Indian Recreation Club 8 (-56); 10, Victoria Park 6 (-83); 11, Malaysia 4 (-55); 12, China Light and Power 4 (-146). B: 1, New Zealand 18 (+111); 2, Kowloon Bowling Club 18 (+70); 3, England 18 (+70); 4, Hong Kong Lawn Bowling Association 16 (+67); 5, Zimbabwe 12 (+21); 6, Canada 12 (-13); 7, Hong Kong FC 10 (-17); 8, Ireland 8 (+32); 9, Hong Kong Cricket Club 8 (-37); 10, Hong Kong Police 6 (-28); 11, Hong Kong Electric 4 (-144); 12, Hong Kong Correctional Services Department 2 (-133). Quarter-finals: Australia bt Kowloon BC 17-14; South Africa bt Hong Kong LBA 20-9; New Zealand bt Wales 28-14; England bt Scotland 18-17. Semi-finals: South Africa bt Australia 28-12; England bt New Zealand 26-18. Final: England bt South Africa 20-9

BOBSLEIGH

CALGARY, Alberta: World Cup: Two-man: 1, Canada I (P Leuders, K Leblanc) 1min 53.06sec (56.52, 56.54); 2, United States I (B Shimer, R Jones) 1:53.26 (56.64, 56.62); 3, Switzerland I (R Gotschi, G Acklin) 1:53.32 (56.68, 56.64); 4, Germany I (C Langen, M Zimmerman) 1:53.35 (56.72, 56.63); 5, Italy I (G Huber, A Tartaglia) 1:53.50 (56.79, 56.71); 6, United States III (J Herberich, R Olesen) 1:53.61 (56.95, 56.66)

BOXING

LAS VEGAS, Nevada: World Boxing Association and International Boxing Federation heavyweight championship: E Holyfield (US, WBA holder) bt M Moorer (US, IBF holder) rsc 8th. **World Boxing Association cruiserweight championship:** F Tiozzo (Fr) bt N Miller (US, holder) pts. **International Boxing Federation cruiserweight championship:** I Mayfield (US) bt U Grant (Jam, holder) pts. **World Boxing Association featherweight championship:** W Vazquez (P Rico, holder) bt G Rios (Nic) pts.

LONDON, Elephant and Castle Leisure Centre: British super-featherweight championship: C Shepherd (Carlisle) bt M Brown (Walworth) pts. Heavyweight (6rnds): B Stevens (Basingstoke) bt L Williams (Blackwood) pts; (6rnds): M Sprott (Reading) bt D Fearn (Carmarthen) pts. Cruiserweight (4rnds): C O'Grady (Ire) bt Cliff Elden (Norwich) rsc 1st. Light-middleweight (8rnds): A McFadden (Ire) bt O Abrahams (Watford) pts. Welterweight (4rnds): D Covill (Welling) bt D Baptiste (Balham) pts; (6rnds) G Eastman (Battersea) bt R Newby (Nottingham) pts. Lightweight (8rnds): S Smith (Kentish Town) bt R Valentino (Henwell) pts.

SAN SEVERO, Italy: World Boxing Union super-flyweight championship: L Castiglione (It, holder) bt A Mnisi (SA) pts.

CYCLING

CYCLO-CROSS: Old Portlians CC (Addington Hills, Croydon, 14 miles): 1, S Blunt (Ace RT) 1hr 6min; 2, R Young (Sutton and Croydon Offroad Club) at 2:10; 3, P Burwell (Bikepark-Raleigh) 2:31. Ludlow CC (Bromfield, Shropshire, 12 miles): 1, S Knight (Halesowen C and AC) 50:45; 2, J Winn (Cwmcarn Paragon) 1:20; 3, M James (Coventry Olympic) 1:50

EQUESTRIANISM

Volvo World Cup qualifier: 1, Belladonna (M Monahan Prudent, US) 0faults, 37.86sec; 2, Gelha's VDL Glenndge (U Kirchhoff, Germany) 0, 38.92; 3, Operette La Silla (J Tops, Holl) 0, 42.30; 4, For Pleasure (L Nieberg, Ger) 4, 35.44; 5, Senator Tees Hanauer (R Smith, GB) 4, 35.92. **Volvo World Cup rankings:** 1, E van der Vleuten (Holl) 48; 2, Kirchhoff 47; 3, P [illegible] 46; 12, R Smith (GB) 23. **Grand Prix:** 1, Virtual Village Two Step (M Whitaker, GB) 0, 38.67; 2, Thor Des Chaines (T Pomel, Fr) 0, 39.46; 3, Nissan High Valley (J Lansink, Holl) 0, 39.95. **Volvo Dressage Freestyle to Music:** 1, Olympic TCN Partout (A van Grunsven, Holl) 74.68pts; 2, Welcome 082 (I Werth, Ger) 74.61; 3, Souveraen W (U Wiens, Ger) 72.41; 8, Hiscox Askari (R Dawson, GB) 68.99.

GOLF

BRASELTON, Georgia: Sarazen World Open: Leading third-round scores: 200: M Calcavecchia (US) 62, 67, 71. 206: L Westwood (GB) 71, 65, 70. 207: S Hoch (US) 69, 69, 69. 208: V Singh (Fiji) 69, 69, 70. 209: D Duval (US) 71, 68, 70; F Nobilo (NZ) 71, 69, 69. Other scores: 210: P O'Malley (Aus) 70, 66, 74; M McNulty (Zim) 74, 66, 70. 211: P-U Johansson (Swe) 69, 70, 72. 213: A Cejka (Ger) 70, 71, 72. 214: P Harrington (Ire) 69, 72, 73. 215: S Struver (Ger) 68, 72, 75. 216: R Goosen (SA) 74, 69, 73; M Jimenez (Sp) 72, 73, 71

MAUI, Hawaii: Kapalua International: Leading third-round scores (US unless stated): 200: D Toms 63, 70, 67; D Love 67, 66, 67. 203: O Browne 64, 72, 67. 204: B Mayfair 67, 71, 66. 205: P Goydos 71, 67, 67; R Maltbie 70, 68, 67. 206: R Cochran 72, 68, 66; C Smith 71, 69, 66; J McGovern 69, 69, 68; B Estes 69, 68, 69; K Triplett 70, 65, 71. 207: K Sutherland 68, 71, 68; N Henke 71, 66, 70; M Hulbert 66, 71, 70; C Rose 69, 67, 71

OTSU, Japan: Queens Cup: Leading final scores: 205: L Neumann (Swe) 68, 70, 67. 206: L Kane (Can) 70, 69, 67. 207: L Hackney (GB) 69, 71, 67; C Johnson (US) 67, 72, 68. Other scores: 208: J Geddes (US) 71, 70, 67; L Davies (GB) 72, 69, 67; H Alfredsson (Swe) 70, 69, 69. 209: C Matthew (GB) 71, 68, 70. 211: A Sorenstam (Swe) 68, 73, 70. 212: G Graham (Can) 72, 72, 68; H Dobson (GB) 67, 76, 69. 71; W Coetzer (Aus) 69, 72, 71. 213: A Nicholas (GB) 75, 72, 68; K Williams (US) 73, 72, 68; J Crafter (Aus) 69, 68, 76

GYMNASTICS

WORCESTER: Inter Regional championships: Teams event: 1, Northern Ireland 45.336pts; 2, Scotland 44.086; 3, West Midlands 43.764. **Over 13 duets:** 1, Yorkshire 6.633; 2, West Midlands 6.442; 3, North West 6.350. **Under 13 trios:** 1, West Midlands 7.010; 2, South East 6.725; 3, Scotland 6.7[illegible]

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Friday: New York Islanders 3 Carolina 2; Pittsburgh 1 Detroit 1; New York Rangers 2 Dallas 2; Anaheim 4 Calgary 3 (OT); Montreal 4 San Jose 3. **Saturday:** Colorado 4 St Louis 1; Buffalo 2 Pittsburgh 2; Chicago 4 New York Islanders 2; Washington 2 Edmonton 1; Philadelphia 4 Ottawa 3; New Jersey 2 Boston 0; Phoenix 3 Toronto 0; Montreal 4 Los Angeles 1; Anaheim 2 Vancouver 2; San Jose 3 Tampa Bay 1

BENSON AND HEDGES CUP: Semi-final, second leg: Ayr 4 Manchester 2 (Ayr win 8-6 on agg).

EXPRESS CUP: Nottingham 2 Cardiff 3, Basingstoke 2 Bracknell 5

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Fife 7 Guildford 6; Kingston 9 Murrayfield 3; Slough 7 Lancashire 4; Telford 8 Paisley 2

SOUTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Cardiff 3 Peterborough 10

KLAGENFURT: World championship: Qualifying tournament: Pool A: Norway 3 Poland 2, Austria 4 Kazakhstan 2

LACROSSE

MOTSPUR PARK: Women's triangular tournament: Cambridge Univ 11 Oxford Univ 2; London Univ 5 Cambridge 5; London 10 Oxford 5. Cambridge won the tournament

RACKETS

QUEEN'S CLUB: Noel Bruce Cup: Final: Eton I (W Boone and A Smith-Bingham) bt Wellington I (T Sawrey-Cookson and T Cockroft) 15-12, 15-13, 14-17, 18-16, 4-15, 6-15, 15-7

ROWING

THAMES HEAD OF RIVER RACE: Men: Quadruple sculls: M Ruder-Verein 18min 07.02sec. **Coxless fours:** Leander 2 18 32.25. **Coxed fours:** Goldie 18 57.25. **Women: Quadruple sculls:** Marlow/Thames 1 19 38.69. **Coxless fours:** Marlow/Thames 2 20 03.23. **Coxed fours:** Imperial College/Queen's Tower/Oxford Brookes 21 10.98. **Fullers fours head: Men: Quads: Open:** M Ruder-Verein (Ger) 18 07. **Senior II:** Leander V 19 03. **Junior:** Wycliffe College I 19 24. **Coxless fours: Open:** Leander II 18 32. **Senior I:** Imperial College/Queen's Tower V 19 17. **Senior II:** Goldie V 19 50. **Veteran:** Upper Thames II 20 01. **Coxed fours: Open:** Goldie I 18 57. **Senior I:** Oxford Brookes III 19 32. **Senior II:** Cambridge 99 IV 20 34. **Senior III** (Academic) Goldie VI 19 58. **Senior** (Club) Lea VI 21 04. **Women: Quads: Open:** Marlow/Thames I 19 38. **Coxless fours: Open:** Marlow/Thames II 20 03. **Coxed fours: Open:** Imperial College/Queen's Tower/Oxford Brookes 21 10. **Senior II:** Cambridge University III 21 57. **Senior III** (Academic) Lady Eleanor Holles II 22 11. **Senior III** (Club) Thames X 23 09

RUGBY LEAGUE

British Gas series

Second International

Great Britain 20 Australia 12

Great Britain: Tries: Farrell, Robinson. **Goals:** Farrell 6. **Australia:** Tries: Gower, Walters. **Goals:** Lockyer 2. **Att:** 40,234

(at Old Trafford)

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Premier division: Heworth 12 Egremont 30; Leigh Miners 21 West Hull 16; Beverley 26 Lock Lane 16; Mayfield 10 Oldham St Annes 18; Saddleworth 17 Askam 20; Walney Central 12 Dudley Hill 12; Wigan St Patricks 10 Woolston 16. **First division:** Barrow Island 23 Blackbrook 14; East Leeds 12 Wigan St Judes 20; Millom 34 Milford 14; Moldgreen 16 Redhill 28; Oulton 4 Shaw Cross 6; Skirlaugh 40 Leigh East 4; Thornhill 52 Eastmoor 0. **Second division:** Dodworth 26 Dewsbury Moor 8; London Skolars 16 Normanton 32; York Acorn 50 Crosfields 16

TOUR MATCH: Great Britain Students 6 Queensland Students 42

SCHOOLS SPORT

FOOTBALL: Premier League Trophy: Under-19: Merseyside 4 Lancashire 1; West Midlands 4 Nottinghamshire 3. **Under-16:** Cumbria 2 Northumberland 4; North Yorkshire 1 Cleveland 3. **Fuji Film Trophy: Third round:** Swindon 2 Afan Nedd 1. **Cheshire Cup: First round:** Warrington 1 Stockport 3, Mid Cheshire 2 Tameside 3. **Manchester Cup:** Bolton 1 Derry 0. **Merseyside Cup:** Liverpool 2 Kirkby 1. **Goodhand Trophy:** Derby 2 Grimsby 0. **West Midlands League:** Solihull 2 Nuneaton 1; Coventry 4 Burton 2; Cannock 3 Aston 2; Erdington and Saltley 2, Mid and South Warwickshire 2; Halesowen and Stourbridge 4 West Bromwich 2; Walsall 2 Stoke 0. **Yorkshire Trophy:** Scarborough 2 Spen Valley 3; Harrogate 2 Hull 6. **Northern Merit League:** Blackburn 3 Bradford 1. **Southern Counties League:** Portsmouth 4 Mid Oxford 1. **Score League:** Vale of Whitehorse 1 Havant 0. **Cobbing Cup: Semi-final:** Worksop 2 Nottingham 5; South Notts 2 Mansfield 0. **Inter-Association:** Oldham 2 South Cheshire 1; Huddersfield 1 Wakefield 2; Doncaster 1 Leeds 2; Manchester 0 Chester 0; St Helens 4 Wigan 4; York 0 Barnsley 6. **Talbot Cup: Under-14:** Salford 6 Wigan 2; Rochdale 1 Manchester 2; Bolton 2 Bury 1. **Alcock Cup: Under-14:** Kirkby 1 Stockport 2; Mid Cheshire 2 Chester 1. **Hartlepool Hospital Cup: Under-14:** Stockton 3 Darlington 4. **Midlands divisional Cup: First round replay: Under-14:** Halesowen and Stourbridge 0 Walsall 3. **Mayes League: Under-14:** Isle of Wight 5 Havant 0; Southampton 1 Portsmouth 0. **Yorkshire Cup: First round: Under-14:** York 3 Barnsley 1. **KW Blood Trophy: Under-14:** Derby 2 Grimsby 0. **Notts Trophy: Under-14:** Nottingham 5 Mansfield 0. **Other match:** Repton 2 Shrewsbury 0

RUGBY UNION: Abingdon 13 St Edward's, Oxford 46. Bancroft's 7 Coopers' Coborn 26. Barnet 3 Campion 77. Bethany 24 Chatham House 0. Bishop's Stortford Coll 10 Stamford 26. Bloxham 47 Shiplake 0. Brighton 13 Eastbourne 19. Bristol GS 5 RGS Worcester 18. Blundell's 0 Bryanston 18. Bradford GS 10 QEGS Wakefield 28. Caterham 0 Eltham 36. Cheltenham 17 Marlborough 8. Chichester HS 12 Bishop Wordsworth 13. Christ's, Brecon 22 Clifton 22. Churcher's 42 Embley Park 0. City of London Freemen's 7 Hampton 18. Colfe's 35 Cranbrook 5. Dean Close 36 Monkton Combe 0. Desborough 29 Aylesbury 7. Downside 24 King's, Bruton 7. Edinburgh Academy 27 Loretto 11. Epsom 18 Cranleigh 6. Felsted 46 The Leys 8. Framlingham 0 Norwich 10. Glyn 5 Latymer Upper 6. Gresham's 16 [illegible] 41. Haberdashers' Aske's 9 St Albans 16. Harrow 6 Wellington, Berks 27. Hymers 20 Woodhouse Grove 11. King's, Canterbury 0 Dulwich 71. King's, Taunton 25 Millfield 24. King's, Worcester 21 Monmouth 25. Lancaster RGS 39 Kirkham 15. Leeds GS 10 Stonyhurst 24. Nottingham HS 26 Uppingham 36. Oakham XV 19 Bedford Modern 25. Perse 29 Ipswich 10. Radley 13 Sherborne 15. RGS Guildford 10 John Fisher 32. Rugby 8 Bedford 12. St George's, Weybridge 7 St John's, Leatherhead 13. St Lawrence, Ramsgate 0 Dover 15. Sedbergh 14 Arnold 12. Sevenoaks 41 Merchant Taylors' Northwood 14. Stockport GS 19 St Ambrose's 7. Taunton 62 Kingswood 0. Tiffin 45 St Benedict's 5. Trent 25 Warwick 22. Wellington, Somerset 3 QEH Bristol 3. Magdalen, Oxford 50 [illegible] 0. [illegible] GS 14 [illegible] 18. Haberdashers' Elstree 9 St Albans 16. Kent Col 40 King's, Rochester 11. Lord Wandsworth Col 5 Pangbourne Col 44. Portsmouth GS [illegible] Seaford Col 6. Woodbridge 22 [illegible] 14

SNOOKER

MALVERN: Benson and Hedges championship: Semi-finals: A Hicks (Eng) bt R Lawler (Eng) 6-5; F Davies (Wales) bt A Burnett (Scot) 6-1. **Final:** Hicks bt Davies 9-6

TENNIS

MOSCOW: Kremlin Cup: Semi-finals: P Korda (Cz) bt W Black (Zim) 6-7, 6-3, 7-5; Y Kafelnikov (Russ) bt D Nestor (Can) 6-4 6-3

STOCKHOLM: Stockholm Open. Quarter-finals: J Siemerink (Neth) bt C Pioline (Fr) 6-4 6-2; J Bjorkman (Swe) bt K Kucera (Slovakia) 6-3 6-2. **Semi-finals:** Siemerink bt G Rusedski (GB) 4-6 7-6, 6-4; Bjorkman bt P Rafter (Aus) 7-6 7-6

SANTIAGO, Chile: Chevrolet Cup. Quarter-finals: J Burillo (Sp) bt O Gross (Ger) 6-4, 6-4; J Alonso (Sp) bt M Puerta (Arg) 6-4, 6-2; M Filippini (Urug) bt R Vasek (Cz) 6-1 7-5; M Rios (Chile) bt F Meligeni (Br) 7-6, 7-6. **Semi-finals:** Rios bt Filippini 6-1 6-4; Alonso bt Burillo 6-1, 4-6, 6-3

CHICAGO, Illinois: Ameritech Cup. Quarter-finals: I Majoli (Cro) bt Y Basuki (Indo) 4-6 7-5 6-4; N Tauziat (Fr) bt J Novotna (Cz) 7-5 6-3; S Williams (US) bt M Seles (US) 4-6 6-1 6-1; L Davenport (US) bt L Raymond (US) 6-4, 6-4. **Semi-finals:** Davenport bt Williams 6-4 6-4; Tauziat bt Majoli 6-2 6-2

SHEFFIELD: Grobank Tour: Men: Quarter-finals: L Gould (Avon) bt R Matheson (Scot) 3-6 6-3, 6-4; G Henderson (Yorkshire) bt P Hand (Berkshire) 6-1 6-4; N Weal (Hampshire) bt P Robinson (Northamptonshire) 6-2 6-2; M Boulding (Yorkshire) bt T Spinks (Norfolk) 6-7 7-5 7-6. **Semi-finals:** Gould bt Henderson 6-3, 6-2; Weal bt Boulding 6-2 6-2. **Final:** Weal bt Gould 6-7 6-2, 6-4. **Women: Quarter-finals:** N Payne (Scot) bt S-A Siddall (Dorset) 6-4 ret; J Lutrova (Russ) bt L Perkins (Durham and Cleveland) 6-3, 6-0; E Jeffs (Oxfordshire) bt E Erbova (Cz) 6-2 6-1; J Ward (Middlesex) bt K Warne-Holland (Dorset) 7-6 6-2. **Semi-finals:** Lutrova bt Payne 6-2, 6-1; Ward bt Jeffs 6-7, 6-3, 6-1. **Final:** Lutrova bt Ward 6-3 6-1

RUGBY UNION

Tour matches

Saturday

Llanelli 3 New Zealand XV 81

Llanelli: Pen: Warlow. New Zealand XV: Tries: Cullen 4, Hewitt 2, Wilson 2, Brooke, Ieremia, I Jones, Kronfeld, Marshall. Cons: Mehrtens 3, Wilson 2. Pens: Mehrtens 2.

Richmond 43 NS Wales 24

Richmond: Tries: Chapman 2, Fallon 2, B Clarke, S Quinnell. Cons: Va'a 2. Pens: Va'a 3. New South Wales: Tries: Dowling, E Edmonds, Grey, Staniforth. Cons: E Edmonds 2.

Yesterday

Bridgend 18 Tonga XV 21

Bridgend: Tries: Bobbyer, Greenaway. Con: Cull. Pens: Cull 2. Tonga: Tries: Faka'osilolau, Mone. Con: Tonga. Pens: Tonga 3.

Heineken Cup

Quarter-finals

Saturday

Bath 32 Cardiff 21

Bath: Tries: De Glanville, Lyle, Ubogu. Con: Callard. Pens: Callard 5. Cardiff: Tries: L Davies 2. Con: Jarvis. Pens: Jarvis 3.

Toulouse 51 Harlequins 10

Toulouse: Tries: Bondouy 2, Dispagne, Lacroix, Lapouige, Ntamak. Cons: Delaigue 2, Ougier. Pens: Ougier 5. Harlequins: Try: Lacroix. Con: Lacroix. Pen: Lacroix.

Yesterday

Pau 35 Leicester 18

Pau: Tries: Bernat-Salles, Brusque, Cleda, Letoir. Cons: Aucagne 3. Pens: Aucagne 3. Leicester: Tries: Back, Serevi. Con: Stransky. Pens: Stransky 2.

Wasps 18 Brive 25

Wasps: Pens: Rees 6. Brive: Tries: S Carrat, J Carrat, Van der Linden. Cons: C Lamaison 2. Pens: C Lamaison 2.

European Conference

Quarter-finals

Saturday

Agen 40 Connacht 27

Agen: Tries: Benazzi 2, Loubere 2, Dal Maso. Cons: Bouic 3. Pens: Bouic 3. Connacht: Tries: Maher, McGuinness, Southam. Cons: Elwood 3. Pens: Elwood 2.

Stade Francais 53 Gloucester 22

Stade Francais: Tries: Bolobolo 2, Dominici, Gimbert, Juillet, Laussucq, Pool-Jones, Reight. Cons: Reight 5. Pen: Reight. Gloucester: Tries: Lumsden, Osman, Penalty. Cons: Fanolua 2. Pen: Fanolua.

Yesterday

Colomiers 23 Montferrand 13

Colomiers: Tries: Biboulet, Penalty. Cons: Labit 2. Pens: Labit 3. Montferrand: Try: Nadau. Con: Merceron. Pens: Merceron 2.

Newcastle 44 Castres 0

Newcastle: Tries: Tait 2, Andrew, Lam, Tuigamala. Cons: Andrew 5. Pens: Andrew 3.

Allied Dunbar Premiership

First division

Saturday

Northampton 13 Saracens 19

Northampton: Try: Moir. Con: Dawson. Pens: Dawson 2. Saracens: Tries: Constable, Lynagh. Pens: Lynagh 3.

Yesterday

Sale 76 Bristol 0

Sale: Tries: Beim 4, Rees 3, Winstanley 2, Ellis, Mallinder, Sanderson. Cons: Howarth 8

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Saracens	6	6	0	0	145	80	12
Newcastle	5	5	0	0	143	82	10
Sale	6	3	0	3	217	146	6
Bath	5	3	0	2	153	119	6
Harlequins	6	3	0	2	131	144	6
Richmond	5	2	0	3	121	108	4
Leicester	3	2	0	1	72	63	4
Gloucester	5	2	0	3	120	112	4
Wasps	4	1	0	3	92	100	2
Northampton	5	1	0	4	88	110	2
London Irish	5	1	0	4	80	139	2
Bristol	6	1	0	5	80	239	2

LEADING SCORERS: 95: M Lynagh (Saracens; 4 tries, 9 conversions, 19 penalty goals). 87: S Howarth (Sale; 21c, 14pg, 1 dropped goal). 58: M Mapletoft (Gloucester; 2t, 9c, 9pg, 1dg). 57: G Rees (Wasps; 1t, 5c, 14pg).

Second division

Bedford 77 Coventry 3

Bedford: Tries: Whetstone 3, Rayer 2, Deans, Forster, Murdoch, Pechey, Turner, Underwood. Cons: Rayer 8. Pens: Rayer 2. Coventry: Pen: Harris.

Blackheath 14 Waterloo 15

Blackheath: Tries: Ridgway, Russell. Cons: Braithwaite 2. Waterloo: Pens: Griffiths 5.

Exeter 10 Moseley 20

Exeter: Try: Thomas. Con: Fabian. Pen: Fabian. Moseley: Tries: Hall, O'Mahony. Cons: M Jones 2. Pens: Liley 2.

Orrell 13 London Scottish 27

Orrell: Try: Heslop. Con: Verbickas. Pens: Verbickas 2. London Scottish: Tries: Lee, Millard, Milligan, Watson. Cons: Lee, McAusland. Dropped goal: McAusland.

Rotherham 32 Fylde 16

Rotherham: Tries: Austin, Elliott, Moffatt. Con: Binns. Pens: Binns 5. Fylde: Try: Gough. Con: Gough. Pens: Gough 3.

Wakefield 12 West Hartlepool 28

Wakefield: Tries: Penalty, Stewart. Con: G Miller. West Hartlepool: Tries: Belgian, S John, Ponton. Cons: Benson 2. Pens: Benson 3.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bedford	9	9	0	0	307	140	18
London Scot	10	7	0	3	255	184	14
Waterloo	10	7	0	3	270	204	14
W Hartlepool	9	6	0	3	203	185	12
Coventry	10	6	0	4	189	235	12
Orrell	9	5	0	4	213	162	10
Moseley	9	5	0	4	170	173	10
Rotherham	9	4	0	5	188	171	8
Blackheath	10	4	0	6	223	253	8
Exeter	10	2	0	8	158	243	4
Wakefield	10	1	0	9	178	252	2
Fylde	9	1	0	8	124	278	2

LEADING SCORERS: 145: M Rayer (Bedford; 3 tries, 20 conversions, 30 penalty goals). 126: L Griffiths (Waterloo, 18c, 30pg). Tries: 10: J Clarke (Blackheath). 9: C Sharman (London Scottish).

Jewson National League

First division

Harrogate 16 Lydney 15

Harrogate: Try: Morley. Con: Dixon. Pens: Dixon 3. Lydney: Tries: Chant, Wakeham. Con: Lewis. Pen: Lewis.

Leeds 37 Reading 27

Leeds: Tries: Appleson, Easterby, Edwards, Stephens. Cons: Tupulotu 4. Pens: Tupulotu 2. Dropped goal: Stephens. Reading: Tries: Costeloe, Pitt, Rowland. Cons: Rowland 2, Costeloe. Pens: Rowland 2. Att: 720.

London Welsh 55 Liverpool St H 12

London Welsh: Tries: Edwards 2, Roskell 2, Currier, Giraud, Lewsey, Raymond, Shaw. Cons: Raymond 5. Liverpool St Helens: Tries: Gaskell, Sheldrake. Con: Salisbury

Morley 6 Worcester 68

Morley: Pens: Withington 2. Worcester: Tries: Jenner 3, Hickey, Holford, Hughes, Linnett, Richardson, Smith, Wilde. Cons: Le Bas 5. Pen: Le Bas.

Nottingham 24 Rugby 39

Nottingham: Tries: C Atkinson, Brookes, Pain, Smart. Cons: C Atkinson 2. Rugby: Tries: Earl, Milner, S Smith, Underhill. Cons: Quantrill 2. Pens: Quantrill 5.

Rosslyn Park 20 Otley 8

Rosslyn Park: Tries: Benson, Casado, Raldeon. Con: Maddock. Pen: Maddock. Otley: Try: Smith. Pen: Rutledge

Wharfedale 11 Newbury 33

Wharfedale: Try: Mounsey. Pens: Mounsey 2. Newbury: Tries: Johnson 3, Davies 2. Cons: Grecian 4.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
London Welsh	8	7	1	0	279	124	15
Worcester	9	7	0	2	276	113	14
Rugby	8	7	0	1	252	128	14
Leeds	8	6	1	1	208	158	13
Reading	9	6	0	3	263	179	12
Otley	9	5	0	4	159	188	10
Rosslyn Park	8	4	1	3	145	140	9
Newbury	8	4	0	4	191	158	8
Liverpool St H	8	3	1	4	121	195	7
Wharfedale	9	3	0	6	173	254	6
Harrogate	8	2	0	6	166	182	4
Nottingham	8	2	0	6	145	208	4
Lydney	9	1	0	8	100	158	2
Morley	9	0	0	9	92	387	0

LEADING SCORERS: 115: S Tupulotu (Leeds; 4 tries, 16 conversions, 20 penalty goals). 97: A Mounsey (Wharfedale; 4t, 13c, 17pg). Tries: 6: A Currier (London Welsh), B Johnson (Newbury).

SOUTH WEST: First division: Barnstaple 18, St Ives 15; Berry Hill 8, Gloucester OB 35; High Wycombe 12, Bracknell 73; Launceston 42, Torquay 12; Matson 15, Penzance-Newlyn 9; Stroud 27, Maidenhead 21.

LONDON AND SOUTH EAST: First division: Askeans 3, Sudbury 12; Basingstoke 10, Harlow 9; Charlton Park 5, Norwich 13; Guildford and Godalming 15, Staines 10; Old Colfeians 22, Sutton and Epsom 15; Old Mid-Whitgiftians 7, Wimbledon 52; Thanet Wanderers 36, Southend 7; Thurrock 0, Ruislip 41.

MIDLANDS: First division: Barkers Butts 16, Banbury 59; Belgrave 16, Derby 5; Broad-street 32, Camp Hill 8; Stoke-on-Trent 25, Kenilworth 13, Syston 10, Scunthorpe 6; Westleigh 31, Mansfield 8; Whitchurch 29, Leighton Buzzard 21; Wolverhampton 10, Hereford 14.

NORTH: First division: Doncaster 12, Bridlington 7; Hull Ionians 31, Stockton 7, Middlesbrough 20, New Brighton 13; Tynedale 19, Wigton 7; Widnes 21, Macclesfield 18; West Park Bramhope 7, Broughton Park 13.

Second division north

Hinckley	6	Birmingham/Sol	40
Lichfield	19	Walsall	19
Nuneaton	31	Sheffield	22
Sandal	44	Aspatria	8
Sedgley Park	16	Preston G	20
Stourbridge	21	Manchester	23
Winnington Park	17	Kendal	28

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Birmingham	8	7	0	1	302	125	14
Manchester	8	5	2	1	269	208	12
Sedgley Park	8	5	1	2	210	164	11
Sandal	8	5	1	2	170	140	11
Nuneaton	7	5	0	2	172	145	10
Kendal	8	4	1	3	173	122	9
Walsall	8	4	1	3	188	214	9
Sheffield	8	3	0	5	164	178	6
Preston G	8	2	1	5	127	161	5
Lichfield	8	2	1	5	128	166	5
Stourbridge	7	2	0	5	153	156	4
Hinckley	7	2	0	5	141	191	4
Winnington P	8	2	0	6	153	229	4
Aspatria	7	2	0	5	136	265	4

Second division south

Cheltenham	13	Camberley	30
Esher	10	Tabard	8
Henley	34	Plymouth	12
Met Police	18	Barking	45
North Walsham	24	Bridgwater	14
Redruth	17	Clifton	18
Weston-s-Mare	17	Havant	25

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Camberley	7	7	0	0	227	101	14
Henley	7	6	0	1	190	116	12
Barking	7	5	0	2	218	144	10
Tabard	8	5	0	3	158	116	10
Esher	8	5	0	3	164	165	10
Clifton	8	5	0	3	127	155	10
North Walsham	7	4	0	3	109	108	8
Cheltenham	7	3	0	4	144	158	6
Havant	7	3	0	4	97	118	6
Bridgwater	8	3	0	5	168	251	6
Redruth	7	2	0	5	159	146	4
Weston-s-Mare	8	2	0	6	104	189	4
Plymouth	8	1	0	7	147	190	2
Met Police	7	1	0	6	115	188	2

Welsh National League

First division

Aberavon 30 Blackwood 22

Aberavon: Tries: N Griffiths 2, Callaghan, W Evans, C Lewis. Con: Ball. Pen: Ball. Blackwood: Tries: Lay, Laycock, Morgan. Cons: Lay 2. Pen: Lay.

Abertillery 27 Llandovery 17

Abertillery: Tries: Green, A Price, Withers. Cons: A Price 3. Pen: A Price. Dropped goal: Withers. Llandovery: Tries: P Jones, D Morgan. Cons: Simpson 2. Dropped goal: E Lewis.

Bonymaen 18 Caerphilly 17

Bonymaen: Tries: S Davies 2. Con: S Davies. Pen: S Davies. Dropped goal: S Davies. Caerphilly: Try: Robbins. Pens: Davey 4.

Dunvant 13 Newbridge 22

Dunvant: Try: Wilkerson. Con: M Thomas. Pens: M Thomas 2. Newbridge: Tries: Hurley, McManus. Pens: J Williams 4.

Maesteg 22 Cross Keys 21

Maesteg: Tries: A Davies 2, G Jones. Cons: A Davies 2. Pen: A Davies. Cross Keys: Tries: Bushell, L Davies, Penalty. Cons: Bebb 3.

Merthyr 13 S W Police 9

Merthyr: Tries: Horgan, Loring. Pen: Hancox. South Wales Police: Pens: Sparrow 3.

Treorchy 79 Pontypool 29

Treorchy: Tries: Eggar 3, Riggs 3, P Jones 2, D Lloyd 2, Fowler, Roberts, David Williams, Dale Williams. Cons: D Lloyd 3. Pen: D Lloyd. Pontypool: Tries: Cawley, Curtis, Law, Lynch. Cons: Curtis 3. Pen: Curtis.

Cardiff Inst 39 Rumney 26

Cardiff Institute: Tries: Matthews 2, Wagstaff 2, Carter, Cooper, Shorney. Cons: Vobe 2. Rumney: Tries: Norman, Patey, Willis, Withers. Cons: Mason 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	T	B	Pts
Aberavon	12	10	1	1	346	206	50	5	36
Caerphilly	11	9	0	2	391	148	50	9	36
Treorchy	12	9	0	3	362	220	53	7	34
SW Police	12	7	0	5	305	182	43	7	28
Merthyr	11	6	1	4	219	202	33	3	22
Llandovery	11	6	0	5	229	196	28	3	21
Cross Keys	11	6	1	4	202	193	19	1	20
Cardiff Inst	12	4	0	8	293	315	38	7	19
Blackwood	12	5	0	7	223	290	30	2	17
Newbridge	11	5	0	6	175	210	16	1	16
Dunvant	11	5	0	6	232	312	26	1	16
Rumney	11	5	0	6	205	307	25	0	15
Abertillery	12	4	1	7	187	241	22	1	14
Maesteg	11	4	0	7	186	255	17	1	13
Bonymaen	11	3	0	8	147	201	17	0	9
Pontypool	11	1	0	10	191	415	24	1	4

SECOND DIVISION: Abercynon 8 Llanharan 38; Kenfig Hill 11 Narberth 9; Tenby Utd 34 Tondu 13; St Peter's 10 Mountain Ash 17; Ystradgynlais 35 Pyle 25; Tredegar 17 Whitland 8.

SRU TENNENTS VELVET CUP: Third round: Boroughmuir 64 Livingstone 0; Currie 169 Allan Glen's 3; East Kilbride 28 Stewartry 13; Glasgow Southern 54 RAF Lossiemouth 10; Gordonians 19 Preston Lodge 11; Grangemouth 101 Dumfries 0; Langholm 39 Forrester FP 3; Melrose 48 Glenrothes 7; Murrayfield 18 Aberdeenshire 11; Peebles 19 Ayr 16; Trinity Acads 29 Penicuik 8; Glasgow Hawks 92 Cumbernauld 6; Biggar 28 Hillhead/Jordanhill 15; Dundee HSFP 35 Stewarts Mel FP 8; Jed-Forest 67 Lochaber 14; Musselburgh 85 Cumnock 0; Gala 60 Hawick Trades 17; Hutchesons' Aloysian 7 Annan 9; Alloa 3 Aberdeen GSFP 31; Berwick 7 Heriots FP 24; Corstorphine 22 Linlithgow 24; Dalziel 14 Duns 13; Dunfermline 0 Kirkcaldy 55; Falkirk 14 Strathendrick 22; Garnock 34 Hamilton Acads 0; Haddington 0 Hawick 54, Howe of Fife 8 Stirling County 65, Kinross 5 Kelso 112; Madras Coll FP 3 Kilmarnock 28; Selkirk 5 West of Scotland 39; St Boswells 3 Edinburgh Acads 67; Wigtownshire 9 Watsonians 107.

AIB LEAGUE: Second division: Old Wesley 13 Instonians 12.

CLUB MATCH: Cambridge University 86 Trinity College (Dublin) 7.

International matches

Argentina 18 Australia 16

Argentina: Tries: Pichot, Martin. Pens: Giannantonio 2. Con: Giannantonio. Australia: Tries: Finegan, Tune. Pens: Knox 2

(at Buenos Aires)

Italy 31 South Africa 62

Italy: Tries: Gardner, Francescato, Vaccari. Cons: Dominguez 2. Pens: Dominguez 4. South Africa: Tries: Du Randt, Rossouw 2, Small 2, Erasmus 2, Swart, Muir. Cons: Honiball 7. Pen: Honiball.

(at Bologna)

Rowers prepare for the start of the Fullers Fours Head, from Mortlake to Putney, on Saturday, which was won by a German crew. Report: page 28. Photograph: Gill Allen

GUIDE TO THE WEEK AHEAD

TODAY

FOOTBALL

kick-off 7.30 unless stated
** denotes all-ticket match*

FA Carling Premiership
Leicester v Wimbledon (8.0)

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Emley v Gainsborough. **First division:** Ashton United v Belper Town.

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Southern division: Tonbridge Angels v Fisher London

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Brighton v Wimbledon (at Worthing FC, 7.0); Luton v Ipswich (at Hitchin FC, 7.0)

PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division: Preston v Liverpool (7.0).

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Keynsham v Calne.

MINERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: O'Brien Butchers premier division Cup: Ruislip Manor v Harpenden

THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP: First round: Bolton v Scarborough; Burton v Bedworth; Birmingham v Crewe; Stoke v Wolverhampton; Wycombe v Cardiff

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: Third division: Cardiff v Scunthorpe

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: First division: Ayr v Falkirk.

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCH: Wales A v New Zealand XV (at Pontypridd, 7.30).

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: European Cup: Group E: Milan v London Towers

ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Manchester Storm v Sheffield Steelers (7.30).

TENNIS: National championships (at Telford)

WEDNESDAY

FOOTBALL

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: Brazil v Wales (at Brazilia, 12.30am); France v Scotland (at St Etienne, 7.45).

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCHES: Bath v Tonga XV (7.15); Moseley v ACT (7.30)

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Oxford University v Major Stanley's XV (3.0).

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Uni-ball Trophy: Crystal Palace v Thames Valley Tigers (8.0). Manchester Giants v Leicester Riders (7.30); Newcastle Eagles v Derby Storm (7.30); Bullets Birmingham v Worthing Bears (7.0)

ICE HOCKEY: Express Cup: Bracknell Bees v Ayr Scottish Eagles (7.0).

SNOOKER: UK Championship (at Preston).

TENNIS: National championships (at Telford).

THURSDAY

FOOTBALL

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Qualifying play-off, first leg: Greece v England (at Iraklion, Crete, 5.0).

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Uni-ball Trophy: London Leopards v Birmingham Bullets (7.0).

BOXING: British Bantamweight championship: N Wilders v N Parry (at Bradford)

ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Newcastle Cobras v Nottingham Panthers (7.0).

SNOOKER: UK Championship (at Preston).

TENNIS: National championships (at Telford)

FRIDAY

FOOTBALL

FA CUP: First round: Bristol Rovers v Gillingham (7.45), Swansea v Peterborough (7.45)

RUGBY UNION

CHELTENHAM AND GLOUCESTER CUP: Pool C: Coventry v Sale (7.30)

TOUR MATCH: Cambridge University v ACT (7.30)

OTHER SPORT

SNOOKER: UK Championship (at Preston)

TENNIS: National championships (at Telford)

SATURDAY

FOOTBALL

kick-off 3.0 unless stated

WORLD CUP: European qualifying play-offs, second leg: Belgium (1) v Ireland (1) (in Brussels, 7.0); Italy (1) v Russia (1) (in Naples, 7.45); Ukraine (0) v Croatia (2) (in Kiev, 5.0); Yugoslavia (7) v Hungary (1) (in Belgrade, 4.0)

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: England v Cameroon (at Wembley, 6.0)

FA CUP: First round: Barnet v Watford, Billericay v Wisbech, Blackpool v Blyth Spartans, Bournemouth v Heybridge, Brentford v Colchester, Bristol City v Millwall, Carlisle v Wigan, Carshalton v Stevenage, Cheltenham v Tiverton Tn; Chester v Winsford, Chesterfield v Northwich, Darlington v Solihull, Exeter v Northampton, Farnborough v Dagenham and Redbridge, Hartlepool v Macclesfield, Hayes v Boreham Wood, * Hendon v Leyton Orient (2.0), Hereford v Brighton, Hull v Hednesford, * Ilkeston v Boston; * King's Lynn v Bromsgrove; Lincoln v Gainsborough, Luton v Torquay, Morecambe v Emley; Oldham v Mansfield, Plymouth v Cambridge United, Preston v Doncaster, Rochdale v Wrexham; Rotherham v Burnley; Scunthorpe v Scarborough, Shrewsbury v Grimsby; * Slough v Cardiff; Southport v York; Walsall v Lincoln United; Woking v Southend; Wycombe v Basingstoke

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: First division: Bradford v Tranmere, Charlton v Crewe, Huddersfield v Reading; Norwich v Middlesbrough; Nottingham Forest v Birmingham; Oxford United v Bury; Port Vale v West Bromwich; Portsmouth v Sunderland, Queens Park Rangers v Stoke; Sheffield United v Manchester City, Stockport v Swindon; Wolverhampton v Ipswich.

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Kettering v Dover, Leek v Gateshead, Rushden and Diamonds v Kidderminster, Stalybridge v Halifax; Yeovil v Telford.

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Aberdeen v Rangers, Celtic v Motherwell; Dunfermline v Hibernian; Hearts v St Johnstone, Kilmarnock v Dundee United. **First division:** Airdrie v Greenock Morton; Dundee v Ayr; Hamilton v Falkirk; St Mirren v Raith; Stirling v Partick. **Second division:** East Fife v Clydebank, Forfar v Queen of South, Livingston v Brechin; Stenhousemuir v Clyde; Stranraer v Inverness CT. **Third division:** Berwick v Queen's Park; Dumbarton v Albion; East Stirling v Cowdenbeath; Montrose v Alloa. Ross County v Arbroath.

RUGBY UNION

kick-off 3.0 unless stated

COOK CUP: England v Australia (at Twickenham, 2.0).

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Ireland v New Zealand (at Lansdowne Road)

CHELTENHAM AND GLOUCESTER CUP: Pool A: Fylde v Northampton (2.30); West Hartlepool v Gloucester. **Pool B:** Exeter v Orrell, Leicester v Rotherham. **Pool C:** Bristol v Waterloo (12.15). **Pool D:** Bedford v Cambridge University; Richmond v London Scottish

JEWSON NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Liverpool St Helens v Morley (2.30), Lydney v London Welsh, Newbury v Harrogate, Otley v Wharfedale (2.15), Rosslyn Park v Leeds (2.30); Rugby v Reading, Worcester v Nottingham (2.30). **Second division north:** Aspatria v Sedgley Park (2.30); Birmingham/Solihull v Lichfield (2.30); Kendal v Hinckley (2.30), Manchester v Winnington Park (2.15); Preston Grasshoppers v Stourbridge (2.15), Sheffield v Sandal (2.30); Walsall v Nuneaton (2.30). **Second division south:** Barking v North Walsham (2.30); Bridgwater v Redruth; Camberley v Esher (2.30), Clifton v Weston-super-Mare, Havant v Cheltenham (2.30); Plymouth v Met Police (2.30), Tabard v Henley (2.30)

WELSH LEAGUE: First division: Blackwood v Merthyr (2.0), Caerphilly v Maesteg (2.0), Dunvant v Treorchy (2.0), Llandovery v Cardiff Institute (2.0); Newbridge v Abertillery (2.0), Pontypool v Aberavon (2.0). Rumney v Bonymaen (2.0); South Wales Police v Cross Keys (2.0)

SRU TENNENTS PREMIERSHIP: First division: Hawick v Currie (2.0); Heriot's FP v Stirling County (2.0); Watsonians v Edinburgh Academicals (2.0). West of Scotland v Jed-Forest (2.0). **Second division:** Dundee HSFP v Kelso (2.0), Kilmarnock v Musselburgh (2.0); Kirkcaldy v Glasgow Hawks (2.0). Peebles v Gala (2.0). Preston Lodge v Biggar (2.0). **Third division:** Ayr v Stewartry (2.0); Gordonians v Stewart's Melville FP (2.0). Grangemouth v Aberdeen GSFP (2.0), Hillhead/Jordanhill v Glenrothes (2.0); Selkirk v Glasgow Southern (2.0).

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League. Watford Royals v Crystal Palace (7.30), Thames Valley Tigers v Derby Storm (8.0); Worthing Bears v London Towers (8.0). **Uni-ball Trophy:** Leicester Riders v Sheffield Sharks (7.30). Manchester Giants v Newcastle Eagles (7.30)

BOXING: British middleweight championship: N Brown (Burton, holder) v G Catley (Bristol) (at Whitchurch Leisure Centre, Bristol)

ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Ayr Scottish Eagles v Bracknell Bees (6.30). Sheffield Steelers v Manchester Storm (7.0). Basingstoke Bison v Nottingham Panthers (6.0).

SNOOKER: UK Championship (at Preston)

SWIMMING: British Grand Prix (at Leicester)

TENNIS: National championships (at Telford)

SUNDAY

FOOTBALL

FA CUP: First round: * Margate v Fulham (1.0); Notts County v Colwyn Bay (noon).

RUGBY UNION

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Wales v Tonga (at Swansea, 3.0)

SRU TENNENTS PREMIERSHIP: First division: Melrose v Boroughmuir (2.15)

RUGBY LEAGUE

BRITISH GAS INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Great Britain v Australia (at Elland Road, 2.0)

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Sheffield Sharks v Bullets Birmingham (6.0). London Leopards v Chester Jets (6.30).

ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Newcastle Cobras v Bracknell Bees (6.30). Manchester Storm v Basingstoke Bison (6.0). Cardiff Devils v Sheffield Steelers (6.0)

SWIMMING: British Grand Prix (at Leicester)

HOCKEY

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: Egypt 1 England 6 (at Cairo, England lead series 4-0). New Zealand 2 Malaysia 0 (at Auckland, New Zealand win series 3-0).

NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Blueharts 2 Sheffield 4; Brooklands 4 Warrington 1; Chelmsford 0 Loughborough St 1; Hull 1 Firebrands 1; Indian Gymkhana 1 Hampstead 2; Isca 3 Lewes 5; Oxford Hawks 2 Gloucester City 0; Oxford Univ 4 Havant 6; Stourport 1 Bromley 2; Surbiton 1 Harleston Magpies 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Surbiton	6	5	1	0	24	6	16
Havant	6	5	1	0	26	9	16
Brooklands	6	5	0	1	19	12	15
Bournville	5	3	2	0	14	5	11
Bromley	6	3	2	1	14	12	11
Chelmsford	6	3	1	2	22	16	10
Indian Gym	6	3	1	2	16	12	10
Hampstead	6	3	1	2	12	9	10
Hull	6	2	2	2	12	10	8
Stourport	6	2	1	3	17	16	7
Harleston	6	2	1	3	10	9	7
Gloucester City	6	2	1	3	10	10	7
L'borough Stu	6	2	1	3	9	11	7
Sheffield	6	2	1	3	11	16	7
Lewes	6	1	3	2	18	25	6
Oxford Hawks	6	2	0	4	10	21	6
Blueharts	6	1	2	3	12	17	5
Firebrands	6	0	5	1	6	11	5
Isca	6	1	2	3	14	22	5
St Albans	5	1	1	3	10	15	4
Warrington	6	1	1	4	11	23	4
Oxford Univ	6	0	2	4	11	20	2

ADNAMS HOCKEY EAST LEAGUE: Premier division A: Clacton 3 Sudbury 0; Colchester 6 Crostyx 1; Ipswich 2 Bishop's Stortford 2; Luton Town 1 Cambridge University 4; Peterborough Tn 3 Cambridge City 1. **Premier division B:** Ipswich and E Suffolk 1 Dereham 4; Norwich City 2 O Southendian 0; Redbridge and Ilford 0 Bury St Edmunds 5; Romford 1 Bedford 5; West Herts 9 St Ives 0

ESL SOUTH LEAGUE: Premier League: Anchorians 2 Maidenhead 0; Chichester 4 Beckenham 2; Eastcote 5 Fareham 0; High Wycombe 2 City Of Portsmouth 2; Old Whitgiftians 4 Gore Court 1; Purley 2 Herne Bay 2; Ramgarhia 2 Bournemouth 2; Tunbridge Wells 4 Trojans 2; Wimbledon 2 Winchester 3; Woking 4 Richmond 1. **Hampshire:** Andover 6 Haslemere 8; Basingstoke 1 Old Mid Whitgiftians 2; Blandford 1 Oxshott 9; Cheam 2 Camberley 0; Dulwich 3 Portsmouth 3; Goan 1 Barnes 1; Old Walcountians 3 London University 2; Old Cranleighans 4 Spencer 0; Oxted 1 Epsom 3. **Postponed:** Petersfield v Old Georgians. **Kent/Sussex:** Ashford 4 Brighton 0; B B H C 4 Worthing 0; Bexley Invicta 1 Blackheath 2; Folkestone 2 Burnt Ash 1; Horsham 1 Sevenoaks 2; Marden Russets 4 Tulse Hill 2; Middleton-Bognor 2 Lloyds Bank 1; Old Bordenians 4 Eastbourne 1; Old Holcombeians 0 Mid Sussex 3; Old Williamsonians 6 Newhaven 1. **Middx/Berks/Bucks and Oxon:** Ashford 3 Wokingham 2; Farnham Common 4 City Of Oxford 4; Lions 5 Gerrards Cross 2; Marlow 1 Staines 2; Milton Keynes 1 West Hampstead 3; Newbury 2 Amersham 3; P H C Chiswick 3 Hendon 0; Phoenix 3 Hayes 7; Richings Park 7 Bracknell 3; Sunbury 1 Old Kingstonians 0.

NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Ben Rhydding 5 Southport 3; Chester 4 Swalwell 2; Harrogate 1 Durham University 2; Norton 2 Neston 3; Sheffield Bankers 1 Formby 3; Timperley 4 Wigan 2

DTZ DEBENHAM THORPE MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bloxwich 3 Blossomfield 2; Coventry and North Warwick 1 Edgbaston 4; Hampton-in-Arden 1 North Notts 1; Harborne 1 Olton and West Warwick 3; North Stafford 1 Khalsa 3; Northampton Saints 0 Nottingham 2

WEST OF ENGLAND AND SOUTH WALES LEAGUE: Premier division: Bristol University 0 Bath Bucs 3; Clevedon 1 Weston-super-Mare 2; Robinsons 1 Taunton Vale 2; Whitchurch 5 Exeter University 0

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Doncaster 2 S Colchester 4; Ipswich 2 Clifton 3; Olton 1 Slough 8; Trojans 1 Hightown 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Slough	4	4	0	0	26	6	12
Ipswich	4	3	0	1	12	4	9
Clifton	4	2	1	1	8	11	7
Hightown	4	2	0	2	7	9	6
Sutton Coldfield	4	1	1	2	8	13	4
Olton	4	1	1	2	7	14	4
Trojans	4	0	2	2	4	8	2
Doncaster	4	0	1	3	4	11	1

FIRST DIVISION: Bedens 0 Bracknell 0; Bradford 0 Canterbury 1; Chelmsford 4 Wimbledon 0; Leicester 2 Loughborough S 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Canterbury	4	4	0	0	12	3	12
B Leicester	4	3	1	0	9	4	10
Chelmsford	4	2	1	1	13	3	7
Bradford	4	2	0	2	4	6	6
L'borough Stu	4	2	0	2	8	11	6
Wimbledon	4	1	0	3	4	8	3
Bracknell	4	0	1	3	1	6	1
Sunderland	4	0	1	3	3	13	1

SECOND DIVISION: Aldridge 1 Ealing 0; Bluehearts 0 Woking 3; Poynton 1 W Witney 1; Sherwood 1 Loughtonians 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Woking	4	4	0	0	9	3	12
Sherwood	4	3	0	1	10	4	9
O Loughtonians	4	3	0	1	10	5	9
Aldridge	4	3	0	1	8	3	9
Poynton	4	1	1	2	7	6	4
Ealing	4	1	0	3	3	6	3
West Witney	4	0	1	3	3	8	1
Bluehearts	4	0	0	4	2	17	0

WOMEN'S REGIONAL LEAGUES: East: BSE 2 Harleston 4; Cambs C 2 St Albans 3; Sevenoaks 2 Dereham 1; WGC 2 Ashford 3. **Midlands:** Belper 4 Leicester 2; Crimson R 1 Kettering 1; Luton 3 Pickwick 0; Nth Staffs 2 Hampton 4. **North:** Blackburn 4 Wetton 0; Chester 2 Sheffield 1; L Sefton 5 Winnington Pk 0; York 0 Leyland Motors 0. **West:** Exeter 2 Exmouth 1; Leominster 0 St Austell 1; Redland 0 Colwall 0; T Vale 1 Cheltenham 5; Yate 1 Bournemouth 1

SQUASH

KUALA LUMPUR: World Open championships: Men's Semi-finals: R Eyles (Aus) bt P Marshall (Eng) 10-15, 15-8, 15-8, 15-6; P Nicol (Scot) bt A Gough (Wales) 15-13, 15-8, 15-5. **Final:** Eyles bt Nicol 15-11, 15-12, 15-12

PHILADELPHIA, Pennsylvania: Open tournament: Quarter-finals: S Schoene (Ger) bt S Fitz-Gerald (Aus) 9-6, 4-9, 9-4, 9-6; S Wright (GB) bt C Owens (Aus) 9-7, 9-2, 9-6; C Jackman (GB) bt S Horner (GB) 10-9, 9-1, 9-3; M Martin (Aus) bt C Nitch (SA) 10-9, 9-2, 9-3

CRICKET

First Test match

Australia v New Zealand

BRISBANE (third day of five): Australia, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, lead New Zealand by 49 runs

AUSTRALIA: First innings

*M A Taylor c Young b Doull	112
M T G Elliott c Young b Cairns	18
G S Blewett c Vettori b Cairns	7
M E Waugh c Vettori b Cairns	3
S R Waugh lbw b Cairns	2
R T Ponting c Pocock b Doull	26
I A Healy b Doull	68
P R Reiffel c Parore b Allott	77
S K Warne c Fleming b Vettori	21
M S Kasprowicz not out	13
G D McGrath c Fleming b Doull	6
Extras (b 4, lb 9, nb 6, w 1)	20
Total (121 overs)	373

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-27, 2-46, 3-50, 4-52, 5-108, 6-225, 7-294, 8-349, 9-359

BOWLING: Doull 30-6-70-4; Allott 31-3-117-1; Cairns 24-5-90-4; Vettori 21-5-46-1; Astle 11-2-20-0; Harris 4-1-17-0.

Second Innings

M T Elliott not out	7
*M A Taylor c Astle b Cairns	16
†I A Healy not out	1
Extras (nb 1)	1
Total (1 wkt, 16 overs)	25

FALL OF WICKET: 1-24

BOWLING: Doull 5-1-10-0; Allott 5-2-10-0; Cairns 3-2-5-1; Vettori 3-3-0-0

NEW ZEALAND: First innings

B A Young c Taylor b Kasprowicz	1
B A Pocock c Taylor b Warne	57
N J Astle run out	12
*S P Fleming lbw b Kasprowicz	91
D L Vettori c S R Waugh b Blewett	14
C D McMillan lbw b Warne	54
C L Cairns b McGrath	64
†A C Parore c Taylor b Warne	12
C Z Harris b Warne	13
S B Doull not out	2
G I Allott c Elliott b McGrath	4
Extras (b 4, lb 4, nb 17)	25
Total (132.2 overs)	349

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-36, 3-134, 4-173, 5-210, 6-279, 7-317, 8-343, 9-343

BOWLING: McGrath 32.2-6-96-2; Kasprowicz 24-6-57-2; Warne 42-13-106-4; Reiffel 21-6-53-0; M E Waugh 7-2-18-0; Blewett 6-2-11-1

Umpires: S G Randell (Australia) and V K Ramaswamy (India).

Pakistan Golden Jubilee tournament

Final

South Africa v Sri Lanka

LAHORE (South Africa won toss): South Africa beat Sri Lanka by four wickets

SRI LANKA

S T Jayasuriya c Symcox b de Villiers	14
M S Atapattu c Cronje b Klusener	22
R S Mahanama c Hudson b Donald	26
P A de Silva c Klusener b Donald	24
*A Ranatunga c Klusener b Pollock	32
H P Tillekeratne c Richardson b Pollock	28
†L de Silva c Richardson b Pollock	1
H D P K Dharmasena not out	24
W P U J C Vaas not out	18
Extras (lb 8, nb 1, w 11)	20
Total (7 wkts, 50 overs)	209

M Muralitharan and S C de Silva did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-29, 2-66, 3-95, 4-101, 5-155, 6-157, 7-173

BOWLING: Pollock 10-0-42-3; de Villiers 8-1-28-1; Donald 10-0-46-2; Klusener 7-0-29-1; Symcox 10-0-37-0; Cronje 5-0-19-0

SOUTH AFRICA

A C Hudson lbw b Vaas	11
G Kirsten run out	7
L Klusener c and b S C de Silva	99
P L Symcox b S C de Silva	15
D J Cullinan st L de Silva b P A de Silva	20
*W J Cronje c Tillekeratne b Dharmasena	33
J N Rhodes not out	5
S M Pollock not out	10
Extras (nb 7, w 3)	10
Total (6 wkts, 40.4 overs)	210

†D J Richardson, A A Donald and P S de Villiers did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-40, 3-71, 4-109, 5-188, 6-197

BOWLING: Vaas 6-1-34-1; S C de Silva 6-0-48-2; Muralitharan 10-0-34-0; Dharmasena 8.4-0-47-1; P A de Silva 5-0-25-1; Jayasuriya 5-0-22-0

Man-of-the-match: L Klusener

Umpires: Salim Badar (Pakistan) and Javed Akhtar (Pakistan)

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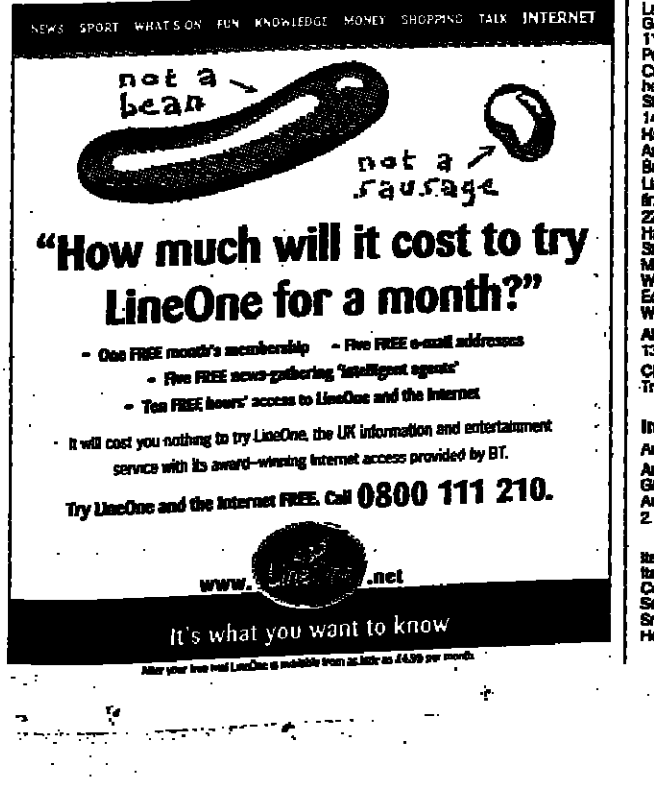

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Time for determining defendant's domicile

The Canada Trust Co and Others v Stolzenberg and Others (No 2)

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Pill and Lord Justice Waller

[Judgment October 29]

The required standard of proof to establish domicile: the time for determining a defendant's domicile, and the requirement for service on the defendant in England prior to bringing proceedings against other defendants were established by the Court of Appeal on an appeal by a number of non-resident defendants from a ruling that the English courts had jurisdiction to entertain claims against them either (a) because of the domicile in England of another defendant to the action or (b) because they were necessary and proper parties to a claim against a person duly served.

The Court of Appeal made the rulings (Lord Justice Pill dissenting in part) in reserved judgments when dismissing interlocutory appeals by seven non-resident defendants, Marco Gambazzi, Edwin Banziger, Coeval Co Inc, Trustfina Anstalt, Mora Hotel Corporation NV, Bogrin Financiera SA, and Geam SA, from the judgment of Mr Justice Rattee on May 27, 1997, holding in favour of the plaintiffs, the Canada Trust Co, the Royal Trust Corporation of Canada and Chrysler Canada Ltd, that the court had jurisdiction over all the defendants because of the domicile of the first defendant, Mr Wolfgang Stolzenberg, in England at all material times.

Mr Andrew Hochhauser, QC, Mr Martin Griffiths and Mr Vernon Flynn for the second, fifth, seventh, tenth, fifteenth and sixteenth defendants; Mr Tom Ivory for the fourth defendant, Mr Banziger; Mr Christopher Carr, QC, Mr Phillip Marshall and Mr Andrew Lenon for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE WALLER said that it was the plaintiffs' case that Mr Stolzenberg was the principal defendant and responsible with the other defendants for inducing the plaintiffs by fraud to make investments in a group of companies. The plaintiffs commenced proceedings against Mr Stolzenberg in England (see also *The Times* May 1, 1997) and sought to join as parties those whom they asserted partook in the fraud.

The plaintiffs asserted that the English court had jurisdiction over Mr Gambazzi, Trustfina and Geam, three of the defendants, on the basis that they were domiciled in Switzerland, a contracting state under the Lugano Convention, incorporated into English law by section 3A of the Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Act 1982, inserted by section 1 of the Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Act 1991.

They relied on article 6.1 of the Convention which provided that a person domiciled in a contracting state could be sued "where he is one of a number of defendants, in the courts for the place where any one of them is domiciled".

Those three defendants had been served with the proceedings but had applied under Order 12, rule 8 of the Rules of the Supreme Court for declarations that the English court had no jurisdiction because Mr Stolzenberg was not domiciled within the United Kingdom at the material time.

The other defendants, resident in non-contracting states, challenged the judge's decision that Mr Stolzenberg was domiciled in the United Kingdom and that they were necessary and proper parties to the plaintiffs' claim brought against a person duly served, whether within or out of England: see Order 11, rule 1(1)(c) of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

Those non-Convention defendants challenged the judge's decision simply by reference to the point which arose in relation to the Convention defendants, namely that the judge was wrong to find that Mr Stolzenberg was domiciled in England at any material time and thus to conclude that the English court could ever have jurisdiction over any defendant.

The court had been asked to deal at that stage with certain points of principle decided by the judge against the defendants in the hope that that would dispose of the appeal.

1 What was the correct standard of proof to apply to the question whether a defendant was domiciled in England on an application under Order 12, rule 8 involving issues that arose under article 6?

The judge held that the Convention defendants' application to set aside service would fail if the plaintiffs had shown a good arguable case that the requirement of article 6.1 had been satisfied. He rejected the defendants' submission that the standard of proof required was the ordinary civil standard of proof, the balance of probabilities.

Having reviewed the authorities, including *Seaconsar Far East Ltd v Bank Markazi Jomhouri Islami Iran* ([1994] 1 AC 438); *Tesam Distribution Ltd v Schuh Mode Team GmbH* ([1990] ILPr 149) and *Molnlycke AB v Procter and Gamble Ltd* ([1992] 1 WLR 1112), his Lordship concluded that the judge was right and that there was no indication that he had not applied the "good arguable case" concept correctly.

2 What was the correct date for determining whether or not a defendant was domiciled in England for the purpose of determining whether the court had jurisdiction under article 6?

Mr Hochhauser submitted that the words "be sued" wherever they appeared in articles 2, 3, 5, 6, 8 and 9 referred to the service of proceedings and not to the mere issue of them. "Sued", he said meant "summonsed" and a defendant was not summonsed until he had been served.

His Lordship said the relevant date had to be the same for article 6 as for article 2. Article 6 provided the power to issue the process in the court of the domicile of one defendant, and that court then allowed service on the defendants so joined.

It had to be as at the date when the writ was issued, not as at the date of service, that the relevant domicile had to be tested.

3 Did article 6 on its true construction require there to have been service on the defendant domiciled in the state of the courts in which the proceedings had been brought prior to the issue or service of the proceedings against defendants in other contracting states?

Order 11, rule 1(1)(c) expressly required the claim to have been brought against a person "duly served within or out of the jurisdiction" as well as requiring the intended defendant to be a necessary or proper party.

Nothing in article 6 equated with that requirement. It was not to be construed as requiring service on the defendant domiciled within the country of the relevant court prior to issue or service of the proceedings on other defendants.

LORD JUSTICE PILL, dissenting on the second point, said that his answer would be that there was no valid service on the defendants under article 6 in the absence of service of a writ on the defendant domiciled in England at the date of service on him.

Lord Justice Nourse gave a judgment concurring with Lord Justice Waller.

Solicitors: Richards Butler; Rakissons; Denton Hall.

Operator of ship has no sovereign immunity

Bridge Oil Ltd v Owners and/or Demise Charterers of the Ship Giuseppe di Vittorio

Before Lord Justice Evans, Lord Justice Aldous and Lord Justice Waller

[Judgment October 29]

As Blasco, the Black Sea Shipping Company, a Ukrainian state enterprise, operated as demise charterer a cargo vessel beneficially owned by the Republic of Ukraine within section 21(4) of the Supreme Court Act 1981, the vessel was therefore subject to the statutory right of arrest given by section 21(4) at the suit of a creditor within section 20(2)(m) of the 1981 Act.

The Republic of Ukraine as owner of the vessel and a successor state to the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics was not entitled to claim sovereign immunity to defeat the creditor's claim.

The Court of Appeal so held, dismissing Ukraine's appeal against the decision of Mr Justice Clarke in the Admiralty Court of the Queen's Bench Division on July 15, 1997 granting the plaintiffs, Bridge Oil Ltd, an order for the appraisal and sale of the vessel pendente lite.

Mr Charles Macdonald, QC and Mr James M. Turner for Ukraine; Mr Luke Parsons for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE EVANS said that a large fleet of cargo vessels was operated by Blasco. One of those, Giuseppe di Vittorio, was lying under arrest in Newport, Gwent at the suit of the plaintiffs. They claimed the price due for bunkers supplied to the vessel in 1996.

The Republic of Ukraine intervened, claiming ownership of the vessel and that section 21(4) of the 1981 Act did not justify the arrest: consequently the vessel should be released. The plaintiffs applied for an order for appraisal and sale of the vessel pendente lite.

Mr Justice Clarke, making the order sought, held: (i) against Ukraine that Blasco was the beneficial owner of the vessel at the date of arrest; (ii) alternatively that Blasco was demise charterer for the purposes of the 1981 Act; (iii) that Ukraine was liable in personam for the sums due under the bunker contracts Blasco entered into and (iv) that the objection based on state immunity failed. Ukraine appealed on each of those four issues.

On beneficial ownership, Mr Justice Clarke had concluded that there had been a change of ownership of the vessel from Ukraine to Blasco. Unless there was such a transfer Ukraine's beneficial ownership was established by *Nazym Khikmet* ([1996] 2 Lloyd's Rep 362).

On further evidence, the Court of Appeal could not infer a transfer of ownership before the date of arrest. Blasco at the material date was accordingly not the beneficial owner of the vessel.

The reference in section 21(4)(b)(i) to a charterer by demise did not appear in the equivalent provisions of the 1956 Act. Parliament intended to authorise the arrest of a ship, although not of a sister ship, when the person liable in person in respect of that ship was the demise charterer at the time of the arrest.

The hallmarks of a demise charter were that the legal owner gave the charterer sufficient of the rights of possession and control which enabled the transaction to be regarded as a letting, a lease or demise, in real property terms, of the ship. Closely allied to that was the fact that the charterer became the employer of the master and crew.

The status of demise charterer depended on the nature of the charterer's rights rather than the extent to which he had exercised them in fact. To discover whether a charterer's rights amounted to a letting of the ship the terms of any charter agreement were to be considered: see *Colvin v Newberry* ((1832) 1 Cl & F 283) and *Baumvoll Manufactur Von Carl Scheibler v Furness* ([1893] AC 8).

A charterparty was not necessary to satisfy the statutory definition. A statute gave Blasco its legal status and established the basis on which it held and made use of state property allocated to it. Those rights could be regarded as equivalent to those which Blasco as demise charterer would have against the owners of the vessel.

The very factors which meant that Blasco was, or was in a situation equivalent to that of, a demise charterer, led to the conclusion that Blasco and not Ukraine, was the party liable in personam on the plaintiffs' claims.

On sovereign immunity, before 1991 by a Protocol to the Treaty of Merchant Navigation between the United Kingdom and the USSR 1968, dated March 1, 1974, each state was entitled to arrest the other's trading vessels but not to sell or otherwise execute a judgment against them. In return the state which owned the vessel undertook to take administrative measures to give effect to the judgment resulting in its being paid.

Following the State Immunity Act 1978, the State Immunity (Merchant Shipping) (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) Order (SI 1978 No 1524) provided that no USSR-owned ship should be subject to any process for the enforcement of a judgment.

In 1991 the Republic of Ukraine succeeded to the rights and obligations of the USSR as a former component of that federal state. Ukraine contended that under international law the 1978 Order applied to a ship owned by it.

It would be wrong to adopt that approach. The 1978 Order was clearly intended to give effect to the 1974 Protocol, which required the state owning the property in question to give effect to a judgment.

By inference the UK government would not be obliged to give effect to the protocol unless and until it was satisfied that that obligation was accepted by the other party. There was no evidence that Ukraine accepted that obligation or could give an undertaking to the court to that effect.

In those circumstances the court should not interpret the 1978 Order as including all property presently owned by any of the constituent states of the former USSR.

The appeal should be dismissed, although differing from the judge on the first and third issues.

Lord Justice Aldous and Lord Justice Waller agreed.

Solicitors: Lawrence Graham; Stephenson Harwood.

Defendant risks ban for disobedience

Canada Trust Company and Others v Stolzenberg and Others

Before Mr Justice Neuberger

[Judgment October 3]

Where there was a strong case against a foreign defendant with no assets here, who had failed to comply with a High Court order for discovery, the only sensible sanction to be imposed on him was to debar him, both from taking any further step in the action and from defending it, should he fail, within an appropriate time, to comply with that order.

Mr Justice Neuberger so held in the Chancery Division in imposing such a sanction upon the fourth defendant, Edwin Banziger, in an action by the Canada Trust Company, Royal Trust Corporation of Canada and Chrysler Canada Ltd against Wolfgang Otto Stolzenberg and 36 other defendants.

Mr Philip Marshall for the plaintiffs; Mr Michael Briggs, QC, for Mr Banziger.

MR JUSTICE NEUBERGER said that the claims, running into hundreds of millions of pounds, were that the defendants were involved in a massive investment fraud: in particular, that Mr Banziger had participated in misleading the plaintiffs into parting with their money and had a substantial beneficial ownership in, and substantial control over the eighth and fourteenth defendants, Interglob Investment Anstalt and Global Management Ltd, a Liechtenstein company.

By a Mareva injunction granted by Mr Justice Rimer on February 26, 1997 against many of the defendants, including Mr Banziger, wide-ranging disclosures of assets and information were required and remained largely unsatisfied.

Mr Banziger was a director of Interglob. His failures to identify his interest in it, or details of its bank accounts, or the identities of who had beneficial interests in its cash or other assets, or to provide its foundation deed or statutes, were clear breaches of the order.

He also held 51 per cent of the equity in Global, which had failed to comply with the order. Further, he held sums in two unspecified accounts in an unspecified bank in Lucerne but contended he should not be subjected to any sanction for withholding details because article 273 of the Swiss Penal Code made it a criminal offence to make a business secret accessible to a foreign authority or organisation or private business or their agents.

His Lordship noted that Mr Banziger might have a defence under article 34(1) of that code, decided that it was significantly more likely than not that the authorities would not prosecute him for disclosure, but expressed the belief that the defendants all operated from Switzerland and/or Liechtenstein so as to be able to claim confidentiality and to hide the truth.

His Lordship accordingly concluded that the plaintiffs needed to get the evidence specified in the order, had made out a case for urgency, and were entitled to the debarring order which they sought.

Solicitors: Denton Hall; Clifford Chance.

Bureau cannot award interest but arbitrator can

Evans v Motor Insurers' Bureau

Before Mr Justice Thomas

[Judgment July 29]

The Motor Insurers' Bureau was not obliged to include an element for interest in an award made under an agreement to compensate victims of untraced drivers. Where, however, the bureau had made an award which was subsequently deemed inappropriate by an arbitrator, the arbitrator could award interest in certain circumstances.

Mr Justice Thomas so stated in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division when dismissing an appeal by Samuel Evans against an award by Miss Diana Cotton, QC, on a reference to her under the provisions of the Motor Insurers' Bureau (Compensation of Victims of Untraced Drivers) Agreement 1972. Mr Evans claimed that he should have been awarded interest on the award made.

Mr Donald Broatch for Mr Evans; Mr Dermod O'Brien, QC and Mr Andrew Miller for the bureau.

MR JUSTICE THOMAS said that the question was whether, and if so, under what circumstances interest should be paid to victims of untraced drivers claiming under the 1972 Agreement.

1 Was the bureau obliged to award interest under the 1972 Agreement?

Clause 3 was the principal provision: "MIB shall ... award ... a payment of an amount which shall be assessed in like manner as a court applying English law ... would assess the damages which the applicant would have been entitled to recover ... if proceedings to enforce as claim for damages ... were successfully brought."

In his Lordship's judgment, the choice of those words made it clear that the amount to be paid by the bureau was to be calculated by reference to an a assessment of damages.

Drawing that distinction between damages and interest accorded with general principle. There was also a significant practical consideration that made it clear the parties could not have intended interest to have been payable.

By providing that the amount to be paid was to be assessed as a court would assess damages, the agreement provided a recognised and practicable basis for assessment. That basis could not be applied to interest.

2 Was the bureau entitled to rely on estoppel by convention as to the meaning of the agreement?

His Lordship accepted the evidence of a common understanding between the bureau and the Department of Transport that the bureau's obligation to the secretary of state was to assess a sum that would have been payable only by way of damages. The elements of estoppel by convention were established as against the secretary of state.

3 Did the arbitrator have power to award interest under the Arbitration Act 1950?

It was clear from the terms of the 1972 Agreement that the reference to the arbitrator was a reference of the question of whether the bureau should have made an award under the terms of the agreement and as to the sufficiency of the amount awarded.

It could not have been intended that the arbitrator could make an award which would include an amount for interest which the bureau was not obliged to include.

His Lordship did not accept, however, the contention that the arbitrator appointed under the provisions relating to arbitration in the agreement did not have any power to award interest.

There were at least two circumstances where an arbitrator should consider the exercise of the discretion to award interest:

First where the arbitrator considered that the amount the bureau had decided on was smaller than appropriate, she should consider making an award of interest for the period between the date of the bureau's decision and the date of the arbitrator's decision.

Such an award would compensate the applicant for the delay in being paid the proper amount.

Second, where the bureau had not acted with reasonable expedition the arbitrator could exercise discretion to award interest from the time at which the sum ought to have been paid to the date of the award.

Solicitors: Joseph Aaron & Co, Ilford; Greenwoods.

Fresh evidence after jury retires

Regina v Kaul
Regina v Collin

Before Lord Justice Evans, Mr Justice Clarke and Mr Justice Collins

[Judgment October 20]

Although the introduction of fresh evidence after a jury had retired should lead almost invariably to the jury being discharged, in certain circumstances the defence might properly invite the judge to allow the trial to continue.

However, counsel should be aware that if they did so and the defendant was convicted they could be regarded as having given up the right to carry out any further investigation which the discovery of fresh evidence might have necessitated.

The Court of Appeal so stated when allowing the appeals of Natasha Kaul and Peter John Collin against their convictions, by a majority of 11 to one, on June 10, 1997 at Middlesex Guildhall Crown Court (Judge King and a jury), of possession of cannabis with intent to supply, on which they were each sentenced to 15 months imprisonment.

Mr James Montgomery for Kaul; Miss Nina Grahame for Collin, both assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals; Mr Peter Grieves-Smith for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE EVANS, giving the judgment of the court, said that fresh evidence was introduced when, after retiring, jurors discovered articles inside a rucksack which had been empty when counsel examined it at the start of the trial.

The prosecution had alleged that the rucksack belong to the first appellant. She denied that.

At the invitation of counsel, the judge allowed the trial to continue, and directed the jury that the rucksack had been, and was to be treated as having been empty throughout the case.

The question whether to examine further on that new issue was primarily one for defence counsel. It had been too late to re-examine it in the original trial, and by not applying for the jury to be discharged counsel effectively indicated that they did not wish to examine the matter further.

It was necessary in such a case to have regard to the relevance and possible significance of the additional material. There was no doubt that the fresh evidence was relevant to a central issue in the case and that it gave rise to matters which required further investigation.

It was for the Court of Appeal to decide whether the convictions were safe or unsafe. In the circumstances, the convictions were regarded as unsafe.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Clerkenwell.

European Law Report

Place of supply of service for VAT

Von Hoffmann v Finanzamt Trier

Case C-145/96

Before G. F. Mancini, President of Chamber and Judges C. N. Kakouris, G. Hirsch, H. Ragnemalm and R. Shintgen

Advocate General N. Fennelly

(Opinion April 24)

[Judgment September 16]

The services of an arbitrator were not similar to those of a lawyer for the purpose of determining the place of supply of a service for value-added tax.

The Sixth Chamber of the Court of Justice of the European Communities so held on a reference under article 177 of the EC Treaty by the Finanzgericht (Financial Court) Rheinland-Pfalz, Germany, for a preliminary ruling on the interpretation of the third indent of article 9(2)(e) of Sixth Council Directive 77/388/EEC of May 17, 1977 on the harmonisation of the laws of the member states relating to turnover taxes; common system of value-added tax: uniform basis of assessment (OJ 1977 L145 p1).

A professor of civil law at the University of Trier, Germany, acted as a member of an international arbitration tribunal at the International Chamber of Commerce in Paris. He was charged in Germany to VAT on the fees received, and brought an action contesting the charge.

The issue in the proceedings was whether the arbitration services were to be deemed to have been supplied in Germany, by virtue of article 9(1) of the Sixth Directive, or in France, by virtue of the third indent of article 9(2)(e).

Article 9 provides: "(1) The place where a service is supplied shall be deemed to be the place where the supplier has established his business...

"(2) However: ... (e) the place where the following services are supplied when performed ... for taxable persons established in the Community but not in the same country as the supplier, shall be the place where the customer has established his business..."

The third indent includes services of consultants, engineers, consultancy bureaux, lawyers, accountants and other similar services.

In its judgment the Sixth Chamber of the Court of Justice held:

The first question was whether the services of an arbitrator fell within the category of those principally and habitually carried out as part of the professions listed in the third indent of article 9(2)(e).

Having regard to the range of services principally and habitually provided in the member states as part of the legal profession, the Community definition of a lawyer did not cover the services of an arbitrator.

While arbitrators were in fact often chosen among lawyers by reason of their legal knowledge, the services of lawyers consisted principally and habitually of representing or defending the interests of a person, whereas those of arbitrators were principally and habitually the settling of disputes between two or more parties.

For similar reasons the services of an arbitrator could not correspond to those of a consultant, engineer, consultancy bureau or accountant: none of the services principally and habitually provided as part of those professions concerned the settling of disputes between parties.

It remained to consider whether an arbitrator's services fell within "other similar services".

That expression referred not to some common feature of the disparate activities referred to in the third indent of article 9(2)(e), but to services similar to those of each of those activities viewed separately.

A service must be regarded as similar to those of one of the activities mentioned in that provision when they both served the same purpose.

Whereas an attempt to reach a settlement by a lawyer taking part in a negotiation, the service offered by a lawyer most closely approximating to that offered by an arbitrator, was habitually based on expediency and the weighing-up of interests, the settlement of a dispute by an arbitrator was based on considerations of justice or equity, so that the two did not serve the same purpose and so could not be regarded as similar.

None of the services of the other professions mentioned in the third indent served the same purpose as the services of an arbitrator.

On those grounds the Court ruled:

On a proper construction, the third indent of article 9(2)(e) of the Sixth Directive did not refer to the services of a member of an arbitration tribunal.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

H.M. Land Registry
Lost certificates

It is proposed to issue a new certificate to replace the one described below that is stated to have been lost or destroyed. Anyone possessing the missing certificate or objecting to the issue of a new one should at once notify The Birkenhead District Land Registry of Rosebrae Court, Woodside Ferry Approach, Birkenhead, Merseyside L41 6DU.

Land Certificate Freehold Title Number 357472 - 11 Chesham Street, Chelsea, London SW1X 8ND.

Proprietor: Allen Cornell of Flat 6, 24/26 Hans Crescent, London SW3

Title Number BM220451 - Chapel House, Buckland Village, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 5HU

It is proposed to grant an absolute freehold title in respect of the above property. The applicants are Anthony Howard Wardlaw Dunbar and Zara Diana Dunbar. Anyone having an interest in the freehold estate or objecting to the registration should at once notify the Leicester District Land Registry of Westbridge Place, Leicester LE3 5DR quoting reference BM220451.

LEGAL NOTICES

Pacific Racing Limited
The Insolvency Act and Rules 1986

In accordance with Rule 4.106, I, P S Dunn of Latham Crossley & Davis, Sherlock House, 7 Kenrick Place, London W1H 3FF, give notice that on 4 November 1997 I was appointed Liquidator of Pacific Racing Limited by resolutions of members and creditors. Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before 5 December 1997 to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned P S Dunn of Latham Crossley & Davis, 7 Kenrick Place, London, W1H 3FF, the Liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution.

Dated: 4 November 1997
P S Dunn, Liquidator

Becky Ross Ltd

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF on 17th November 1997 at 12.00 for the purposes provided in Section 98 et seq. It is not intended to propose any resolutions at the meeting concerning Liquidators remuneration, however the meeting may recieve information about, or be called upon to approve, the costs of preparing the statement of affairs and convening the meeting. A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00am to 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.

Dated this 3rd November 1997
D.J. DALE, DIRECTOR

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES

TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE

0171-680 6878 OR FAX: 0171-481 9313

Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

PUBLIC NOTICES

BAKER, WILLIAM CHARLES BAKER late of Dereham, Norfolk died at Norwich on 30 August 1997 (Estate about £50,000)

BROWN, IRIS LAVINA BROWN SPINSTER late of Epsom, Surrey died there on 14 March 1997 (Estate about £5,060)

CHAMBERS, FREDERICK WILLIAM CHAMBERS late of [illegible]

[illegible]

JESSOP, ALBERT WILLIAM JESSOP otherwise ALBERT JESSOP late of Nottingham died there on 3 December 1996 (Estate about £19,500)

JOHNSON, ALWYN ROBERTS JOHNSON late of Gorleston, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk died there on 29 November 1996 (Estate about £20,000)

LEWIS, DAVID LEWIS late of Newport, Gwent died there on [illegible]

[illegible]

LEGAL NOTICES

UNILEVER N.V.

DIVIDEND ON DUTCH CF CERTIFICATES FOR ORDINARY CAPITAL ISSUED BY
N.V.NEDERLANDSCH ADMINISTRATIE-EN TRUSTKANTOOR

The Board of Directors of Unilever N.V. announces that in respect of the 1997 financial year an interim dividend of Fl.0.74 per ordinary share of Fl.1, - nominal will be available as from 19 December 1997, less 25% dividend tax.

Holders of CF certificates will receive the dividend automatically via the depository office in which their certificates are deposited at close of office hours on 14 November 1997.

We would point out that holders of K certificates of ordinary shares of Fl.4, - who, at the time when the interim dividend is made available for payment, have still not converted their certificates into CF certificates of ordinary shares of Fl.1, - will receive the dividend from N.V. Nederlandsch Administratie- en Trustkantoor (Herengracht 420, 1017 BZ Amsterdam) as soon as they offer their certificates for conversion.

DUTCH DIVIDEND TAX relief is given by certain Tax Conventions concluded by the Netherlands. A resident of a convention country will, generally, be liable to Dutch dividend tax at only 15% provided the appropriate Dutch exemption form is submitted. If the certificates are owned by a UK resident and are effectively connected with a business carried on through a permanent establishment in the Netherlands, Dutch dividend tax at 25% will be deducted and will be allowed as credit against Dutch tax payable on the profits of the establishment. Dutch dividend tax on this dividend is Fl.0.1850 at 25% and Fl.0.1110 at 15%.

UK INCOME TAX at the reduced rate of 5% on the gross amount will be deducted from payments made to UK residents instead of at the lower rate of 20%. This represents a provisional allowance of credit at the rate of 15% for the Dutch dividend tax already withheld. No UK income tax will be deducted from payments to non-UK residents who submit an Inland Revenue Affidavit of non-residence in the UK.

A statement of the procedure for claiming relief from Dutch dividend tax, can be obtained at the address below.

N.V. NEDERLANDSCH ADMINISTRATIE-EN TRUSTKANTOOR
London Transfer Office, Midland Securities Services, Client Delivery, Midland Bank PLC, Mariner House, Pepys Street, London EC3N 4DA.
7th November 1997.

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Netherlands	(DFl)	778	56%	428	224	188
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Sweden	(SKr)	5232	14%	2878	1504	1056
Switzerland	(SFr)	809	49%	445	232	177
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CHANGING TIMES

tor of ship has no
reign immunity

sh evidence after
jury retires

Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and *price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.*

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
5,036.00	Allied Domecq	483	- 3½	5.6	14.5
228.40	Bulmer (HP)	432½	- 15	4.2	12.1
27.80	Burn Stewart	40½	- ½	9.1	16.2
132.60	Glenmorangie A	975		1.7	24.1
11,383.90	Grand Met	538½	+ ½	3.5	17.3
10,191.00	Guinness	537½	+ 6½	3.6	14.8
426.20	Highland Dist	319½	- 3	3.6	14.5
208.40	Matthew Clark	235½	- 8	12.7	7.0
6.00	Merydew W	55		7.0	13.6
4,323.40	SA Breweries	1468½	- 119¼	2.4	

BANKS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
16,262.20	ABN-AMRO	1108¼	- 18¼	2.8	16.5
13,408.80	Abbey Nat	949½	+ 7½	3.6	15.5
3,851.80	Alliance & Leic	679	- 4	3.0	15.9
4,293.20	Allied Irish	507½	+ 3	3.6	14.8
6,021.80	Aus NewZ	404	- 13	4.7	..
35,406.00	Bank America	4340¾	+ 43¾		
5,931.60	Bank Scotland	485	- 7	2.3	13.4
22,511.50	Barclays	1482	- 11	2.8	14.1
3,779.70	Bk of Ireland	773½	+ 2½	2.8	17.1
36,627.00	Citicorp	7568¾	- 58		
6,777.70	Commerzbk	1678¾	- 3¾	2.8	..
13,678.50	Dai Ichi Kan Y	437¼	- 71¾	0.9	.
18,820.90	Deutsche Bk	3762½	- 209¾	1.7	.
478.90	Espirito Santo	1209¾	+ 3½	2.9	
12,112.80	Fuji Bank Y	418	- 103¾	1.0	79.4
12,244.70	HSBC	1401	- 84	4.1	11.4
23,966.60	HSBC HK	1330	- 70	4.3	10.8
17,168.40	Halifax	684	+ 8	2.7	23.0
507.40	Irish Perm	598	+ 15	2.6	16.3
39,861.70	Lloyds TSB	739	- 6	2.4	21.5
12,414.50	Nat Aust Bk	829¾	+ 12¼	4.7	..
14,629.00	Nat West	853	- 4	4.4	13.5
2,133.40	Northern Rock	480½	- ½	2.4	19.0
5,529.80	Royal Bk Scot	643	+ 11	3.8	13.9
6,306.20	Stand Chart	625	- 22	3.1	10.9
16,061.10	Wells Fargo	£164¾	....	1.9	.
6,257.80	Westpac	351½	+ 3½	4.2	.
4,624.80	Woolwich	289	- 16	3.4	17.1

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
7,192.80	Bass	810	- 18	4.0	15.2
15.80	[illegible]	47	+ 1	4.8	9.9
30.20	Burtonwood Brw	145	- 1	5.2	13.5
252.50	City Centre Rest	130	+ 1	2.4	20.2
2,154.60	Compass Gp	656½	+ 29	1.7	24.1
55.40	Eldridge P 'A'	261½	+ 1½	2.7	14.4
169.70	Enterprise Inns	261½	+ ½	3.3	18.4
59.80	Fuller Smi 'A'	430	..	2.9	15.0
1,047.10	Greenalls Gp	354	+ 1	5.6	8.8
385.10	Greene King	635½	+ 9	3.2	13.7
28.70	Grosvenor Invst	202	- 3½	3.9	21.1
51.50	Groupe Chez Ger	275½		1.5	
46.50	Hardy Hanson	232½	+ 5	5.9	10.3
69.00	Holt J	2452½	- 92½	3.0	13.8
45.40	Inn Business	60½		3.4	9.7
202.10	Mansfield	309	- 1½	2.8	13.5
248.40	Mission Tamp	274½	+ 3½	3.7	8.5
162.30	Morland	501	- 4	3.2	12.9
58.70	Old Eng Pub	248½	- 12	1.2	19.5
2.58	Paramount	21½	- 2	..	...
515.00	PizzaExpress†	778	+ 34	0.5	40.2
30.90	Ransoms (H)	332½	- 15	1.9	29.4
252.60	Regent Inns†	283½	+ 1	1.5	
68.30	SFI†	116	- ½	0.8	24.7
4,035.50	Scot & New	653	- 21½	4.1	14.0
345.10	Vaux Group	242½	+ 4	5.5	10.9
633.40	Wetherspoon JD†	1624	+ 9	0.8	..
3,858.30	Whitbread	787	- 10	3.9	13.4
308.00	Wolverhmptn D	455	- 2½	4.8	9.9
234.40	Yates Bros	371½	- 7	1.0	26.7
19.60	Young 'A'	675	..	2.8	26.5

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

BUILDING MATERIALS

CHEMICALS

DISTRIBUTORS

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

ELECTRICITY

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

ENGINEERING

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

HEALTHCARE

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

LEISURE & HOTELS

MEDIA

OIL & GAS

OTHER FINANCIAL

PHARMACEUTICALS

PRINTING & PAPER

PROPERTY

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WATER

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

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THE TIMES

Portfolio

£1,000 to be won

Check the numbers on your Portfolio card and find your eight stocks in the Portfolio panel below. In the column provided next to your eight shares enter the share movements as published on this page. Ignore fractions, ie enter 16½ as 16 (the symbol ... means no change). After listing the price changes of your eight shares, add or subtract as appropriate to find your total *which can be plus or minus. If* your overall total matches exactly the points required for the daily dividend you win or share the £1,000 daily prize.

No	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Allied Irish	Banks	
2	Relyon	House Gds	
3	Ben Bailey	Bld & Cons	
4	Nthn Ireland	Electy	
5	Intercare Gp	Healthcare	
6	*Hillsdown*	*Food Man*	
7	Sims Food	Food Man	
8	Cussins	Bld & Cons	
9	AndrwsSykes	Bld & Cons	
10	Cranswick	Food Man	
11	*Tunstall*	*Electronic*	
12	Wassall	Div Inds	
13	T & S Stores	Ret Gen	
14	Sidlaw	Print Pap	
15	Alliance Res	Oil & Gas	
16	*Premium Trst*	*Insurance*	
17	Muckltw (A&J)	Property	
18	Trinity Intl	Media	
19	Benchmark	Property	
20	Smart (J)	Property	
21	*Vanguard*	*Pharm'cals*	
22	Hddr H'lme	Media	
23	Man ED & F	Oth Fin	
24	Brown (N)	Ret Gen	
25	Corp Services	Sup Serv	
26	*Brit Biotech*	*Pharm'cals*	
27	Adscene	Media	
28	FS Dev	Mining	
29	Jarvis Porter	Print Pap	
30	Peel	Property	
31	*Evns Halshw*	*Distrib's*	
32	Dag Motors	Distrib's	
33	Royal Dlton	House Gds	
34	City Tech	Chemicals	
35	Lonrho	Div Inds	
36	Wilshaw	Distrib's	
37	Hardy Hansn	Breweries	
38	Greenlls Gp	Breweries	
39	Chrles Sidny	Distrib's	
40	Ash & Lacy	Engin'ing	
41	Blue Circle	Bld Mats	
42	How Gp	Engin'ing	
43	Vaux Gp	Breweries	
44	Avis Eurpe	Transport	

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Portfolio

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DAILY DIVIDEND

+ 38

Claims required for + 38 pts

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between 9.30am-3pm

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals to match the weekly dividend published in the *Sunday Times* to win £5,000.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun

Weekly accumulator total

There was one winner of the £1,000 prize yesterday:

L Avery, Cobham, Surrey.

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
7.06	Jerome (S)	51½	- 1	7.6	12.6
61.20	Jones Stroud	353½	- 1½	5.9	16.8
25.00	Lambert	181	- 11	5.5	12.1
36.90	Lamont	129½	- 1	13.5	9.8
44.30	Leeds	131		7.0	9.0
8.40	Leslie Wise Gp	24	- ½	11.7	18.4
5.36	Lyles (S)	76½	+ 7½	3.7	12.7
29.50	Marling	16½		1.6	62.9
5.69	PEX	4½			7.9
24.60	Parkland	176	- ½	4.7	7.7
363.00	Pentland	100	- ½	6.5	15.0
16.20	Pittards	74½	- ½	5.9	9.0

هكذا من الأصل

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Burton expected to show plum results

COMPANIES

"Little Jack Hoerner, Sat in a corner....?"

John Hoerner will reveal probably Burton's last results before Debenhams is taken out

BURTON GROUP: These are likely to be the last results from the high street fashion retailer led by John Hoerner, chief executive, before it demerges Debenhams.

Full-year figures on Thursday are likely to be impressive, showing pre-tax profits growing from £151.6 million to £186 million, a rise of 23 per cent, while earnings per share grow from 7.8p to 9.3p.

When the demerger was announced the group gave a rundown of sales in the 18 weeks to July, showing a decline in overall sales from 11.3 per cent in the first half to 9.7 per cent overall. It also became clear that the disparity between Debenhams and the multiples was starting to grow. Debenhams had grown from 9.4 per cent in the first half to 10.4 per cent in the second with the multiples slipping from 5.8 per cent to 1.5 per cent. The dividend will grow from 2.8p to 3.3p.

ALLIED DOMECQ: The first signs of a revival in the group' spirits business combined with the steady introduction of concept pubs should provide a useful boost to overall profits when full-year figures are published tomorrow. Pre-tax profits are expected to come in towards the top end of a range of between £590 million and £610 million. That compares with £575 million last time. Earnings per share should also achieve double-digit growth of around 13 per cent at 37.4p.

NatWest Markets, the broker, says the geographical exposure of the spirits business is favourable. Europe is recovering but the US remains flat. The group has limited exposure to the Asian markets.

The main thrust to profits growth should again come from the retail operations, in particular the managed pubs. The group has spent a considerable sum developing the Firkin, Scruffy Murphy and Big Steak pub chains. The payout is expected to be pegged at 23.59p a share.

BAA: Strong growth in traffic numbers should help to boost first-half results due today. Pre-tax profits are expected to come in at £320 million compared with £304 million last time, while earnings a share should have grown by around 7 per cent from 22.2p to 23.7p.

The group's performance will have been held back by the termination of capitalisation on interest relating to the Terminal 5 project and the rebalancing of peak charges. This will depress profits to the tune of £26 million. Passenger numbers during the first half grew 7.2 per cent to 31.1 million although retail income per passenger remained flat. Revenues should have grown by 15 per cent to £853 million.

The group is pursuing a four-year programme of smoothing peak and off-peak traffic charges. This will produce a £15 million shortfall in the first half - although the second half should benefit by the equivalent amount.

An increase of 10 per cent in the dividend to almost 5p is envisaged.

BRITISH ENERGY: The benefits of the group's ability to squeeze more electricity out of its eight power stations will have been offset by lower Pool prices, which fell 8 per cent year-on-year. Interim figures on Wednesday are expected to show reduced losses of £31 million compared with £53 million last time. This translates into an improvement in the loss a share from 4.6p to 2.8p. Despite the losses brokers are forecasting an increase in the interim payout from 4.6p to 4.85p.

The drive is on to cut costs in all areas; this should be most noticeable in fuel reprocessing after the revision of contracts with BNFL.

RAILTRACK: Interim figures on Thursday should confirm that the group is continuing to build up a full head of steam on the growth front. Pre-tax profits are poised to jump 10 per cent to £165 million accompanied by a 12 per cent rise in earnings a share from 25.2p to 28.1p.

It should be achieved with a combination of modest revenue growth and reduced costs in both maintenance and overall group costs. But the figures are unlikely to be accompanied by any property revaluation or balance sheet restructuring. The group has made efforts to improve performance, with a 5 per cent reduction in delays already recorded. The payout should grow 10 per cent to 8p net.

SOUTH WEST WATER: Things have certainly changed for the group. Last year it had just seen off bids from rivals Wessex and Severn Trent. Interim figures on Thursday will provide the group with the opportunity to outline its own strategy.

Pre-tax profits are expected to come in at £70 million, an increase of £5 million on the corresponding period. But earnings are expected to decline 8 per cent from 51.6p a share to 47.7p. The group's regulated operations should exceed assumptions made by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission back in 1995 while its non-regulated should show a useful improvement.

The payout is likely to be 11 per cent higher at 13.1p.

COMMERCIAL UNION: A small improvement is envisaged in third-quarter numbers, due on Wednesday. Pre-tax profits should come in at £355 million, just £7 million higher than the corresponding period. Underwriting results will have improved with lower weather losses in the US offset by a decline in Britain. Headline life profits are likely to have risen a modest 9 per cent but underlying growth should be nearer 25 per cent while investment income declines 13 per cent because of adverse currency movements, rising interest rates and claims payments.

GENERAL ACCIDENT: Third-quarter numbers tomorrow will show a better performance than rival CU, with pre-tax profits poised to grow 21 per cent to £379 million. Earnings per share are also likely to be sharply higher, with brokers forecasting a rise of one third to 58.6p.

The improvement in underwriting should come from lower weather losses in the US and Cananda accompanied by a turnaround from London after the withdrawal from unprofitable areas.

A 25 per cent increase in life profits reflects the absence of restructuring charges, lower costs and strong underlying growth. But investment income is likely to prove flat.

THE ENERGY GROUP: Interim results on Wednesday will be overshadowed by the imminent result of the MMC inquiry into PacifiCorp's bid for the company. The report is likely to be delivered to Margaret Beckett's desk at the DTI next week.

Few surprises are envisaged, with pre-tax profits just 2 per cent ahead at £144.7 million while earnings per share will have grown 5 per cent to 19.7p.

Shareholders will be rewarded with a rise in the payout from 7.3p to 8.2p.

MICHAEL CLARK

RESULTS AND STATISTICS

TODAY

Interims: BAA, Cable & Wireless Communications, Critchley Group, Filofax Group, Oriental Restaurant Group, Plasmon, Renold. **Finals:** Carr's Milling, Sidlaw Group, UK Estates. **Economic statistics:** October producer prices.

TOMORROW

Interims: General Accident, John Lusty Group, Nycomed Amersham, Sedgwick Group (q3), Whitehead Mann, WT Foods. **Finals:** Allied Domecq, Bett Brothers, Scottish Value Trust, Wardle Storeys. **Economic statistics:** British Retail Consortium October retail sales survey, October retail prices index.

WEDNESDAY

Interims: Berry Birch & Noble, British Energy, Business Post Group, Capital Gearing Trust, Commercial Union (q3), Electrocomponents, Energy Group, Oxford Instruments, SA Breweries, Staveley Industries, Volex Group, Waddington **Finals:** Gremlin Group, Hambros. **Economic statistics:** September average earnings, unit wage costs, October unemployment, Bank of England quarterly inflation report, minutes of October Bank of England monetary policy committee meeting.

THURSDAY

Interims: Bank of Ireland, Porter Chadburn, Property Partnerships, Railtrack, Regalian Properties, Scapa Group, South West Water. **Finals:** Burton Group, James Dickie, Euro Disney, Majedie Investments.

FRIDAY

Interims: Portsmouth & Sunderland Newspapers. **Economic statistics:** Confederation of British Industry regional trends survey.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Markets prepare for US rate rise

The threat of a US interest rate rise on Wednesday will dominate the markets this week. Stronger than expected labour market data at the end of last week revived fears of an immediate increase, although the Fed could shy away from unsettling the markets further after recent heavy falls.

If the Fed opts for no change, economists will turn to the retail sales data on Friday, to see if some of the heat is coming out of the economy. MMS International, the economics consultancy, predicts no increase in monthly sales growth for October after September's 0.3 per cent rise.

In the UK, the Bank of England's inflation report, also due to be published on Wednesday, should help to clarify the Bank's thinking on the interest rate outlook after last week's shock rise.

The inflation statistics could well provide some reassurance. The market expects headline inflation on Tuesday to remain unchanged at 3.6 per cent, while underlying inflation could edge closer to the Government's target figure, coming in at 2.6 per cent.

The producer prices figures, published today, should also show pipeline inflationary pressures remaining subdued. Raw material prices are forecast to decline at an annual rate of 8 per cent, compared with 7.8 per cent in September, as strong sterling continues to keep the lid on prices. But factory-gate prices are expected to show a modest increase from 1.4 per cent to 1.5 per cent.

However, stronger than expected labour market data could revive fears of further rate rises. MMS predicts that unemployment will fall by 20,000 but average earnings will climb above the Bank's upper-end target figure of 4.5 per cent to 4.75 per cent.

ALASDAIR MURRAY

SUNDAY TIPS

Independent on Sunday: Buy Workplace Technologies, Pilkington, Robotic Technology Systems. *The Observer*: Buy Whitbread, Memory Corporation, Unigate, Geest. *The Sunday Telegraph*: Buy Thistle Hotels, Northern Recruitment Group, Robert Walters, Dragon Oil. *The Sunday Times*: Buy Rolls-Royce, Cable & Wireless, Allied Domecq, Primary Health.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.54	2.37
Austria Sch	21.39	19.87
Belgium Fr	62.83	57.87
Canada $	2.514	2.328
Cyprus Cyp£	0.895	0.824
Denmark Kr	11.59	10.70
Finland Mkk	9.28	8.51
France Fr	10.14	9.38
Germany Dm	3.06	2.81
Greece Dr	481	442
Hong Kong $	13.91	12.71
Iceland	128	108
Ireland Pt	1.17	1.08
Israel Shk	6.27	5.62
Italy Lira	3012	2775
Japan Yen	224.73	207.20
Malta	0.677	0.618
Netherlds Gld	3.450	3.155
New Zealand $	2.87	2.63
Norway Kr	12.39	11.45
Portugal Esc	308.03	288.00
S Africa Rd	8.89	7.94
Spain Pta	255.29	236.50
Sweden Kr	13.44	12.34
Switzerland Fr	2.51	2.30
Turkey Lira	319190	298312
USA $	1.799	1.656

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Rates as at close of trading on Friday.

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.6943 (+0.0177)
German mark
2.8901 (+0.0033)
Exchange index
102.9 (+0.6)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
3106.3 (-17.5)
FTSE 100
4764.3 (-78.0)
New York Dow Jones
7581.32 (+139.24)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
15836.36 (-622.58)

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 38

PIBGORN

(a) A wind instrument with a single reed and a horn attached to each end. It is played (with difficulty) in Wales and other Celtic lands, where it continued to be called a pibgorn until the 19th century.

COCK TREAD

(b) An opaque speck or germinal vesicle on the surface of the yolk in an impregnated egg. Limming's household advice, 1573: "Take the whites of eggs not breaking them in any wise but take out the cock treading."

SYRINX

(b) Birdsong is produced in the syrinx, which is a slight enlargement at the lower end of the trachea. A pair of membranes have muscles, which alter the tension on them, thus varying the pitch of the sound.

HOCKET

(c) The breaking of a melody into single notes or very short phrases. Much used in 13th and 14th centuries, both for instruments and voices, where one sings while the other rests.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 ... Rxc2! 2 Ra4 (2 Qxc2 Qxd4+ wins the rook on a7) 2 ... Rxf2 3 Rxc4 Rxf4 and White is helpless against the twin threats of ... c5 and ... Rxd4.

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price £	Wkly +/-	Int yld %	Gro red yld
	SHORTS (under 5 years)				
880	Treas 4⅝% 1998	116	+ [illegible]	3.89	6.33
3,550	Exch 9¾% 1998	100[illegible]	- [illegible]	9.71	7.05
8,150	Treas 7¼% 1998	100[illegible]	- [illegible]	7.25	7.19
970	Treas 14% 1998-01	103[illegible]	- [illegible]	13.53	7.25
935	Treas 15½% 1998	106[illegible]	- [illegible]	14.49	7.23
3,809	Exch 12% 1998	104[illegible]	- [illegible]	11.48	7.26
1,900	Treas 9½% 1999	102[illegible]	- [illegible]	9.27	7.18
3,050	Exch 12¼% 1999	108[illegible]	- [illegible]	11.50	7.17
1,252	Treas 10½% 1999	104[illegible]	- [illegible]	10.02	7.12
6,950	Treas 6% 1999	99[illegible]	- [illegible]	6.10	7.01
1,798	Conv 10¼% 1999	105[illegible]	- [illegible]	9.89	7.10
5,358	Conv 9% 2000	104[illegible]	- [illegible]	8.65	7.01
9,800	Treas 8% 2000	102[illegible]	- [illegible]	7.78	6.97
109	Treas 8½% 2000	102[illegible]	- [illegible]	8.27	7.09
3,171	Treas 13% 2000	114[illegible]	- [illegible]	11.38	7.05
4,406	Treas 10% 2001	109[illegible]	- [illegible]	9.20	6.88
12,750	Treas 7% 2001	100[illegible]	- [illegible]	6.97	6.87
	MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)				
9,000	Treas 7% 2002	100[illegible]	- [illegible]	6.94	6.98
6,527	Treas 9¾% 2002	111[illegible]	- [illegible]	8.74	6.85
8,600	Treas 8% 2003	105[illegible]	- [illegible]	7.57	6.75
2,503	Treas 10% 2003	115[illegible]	- [illegible]	8.68	6.78
1,620	Treas 11½% 2001-04	113[illegible]	- [illegible]	10.16	7.01
543	Fund 3½% 1999-04	88[illegible]	- [illegible]	3.94	5.53
3,412	Conv 9½% 2004	115[illegible]	- [illegible]	8.24	6.78
8,500	Treas 6¾% 2004	100[illegible]	- [illegible]	6.73	6.67
10,373	Treas 8½% 2005	111[illegible]	- [illegible]	7.84	6.82
4,842	Conv 9½% 2005	116[illegible]	- [illegible]	8.18	6.71
2,200	Treas 12½% 2003-05	127[illegible]	- [illegible]	9.78	6.78
11,700	Treas 7½% 2006	105[illegible]	- [illegible]	7.08	6.62
4,000	Treas 7¾% 2006	107[illegible]	- [illegible]	7.23	6.65
2,050	Treas 8% 2002-06	104[illegible]	- [illegible]	7.68	6.88
3,150	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	121[illegible]	- [illegible]	9.70	6.62
7,397	Treas 8½% 2007	112[illegible]	- [illegible]	7.52	6.65
8,000	Treas 7¼% 2007	104[illegible]	- [illegible]	6.92	6.58
5,621	Treas 9% 2008	118[illegible]	- [illegible]	7.57	6.53
3,459	Treas 8% 2009	111[illegible]	- [illegible]	7.17	6.57
4,750	Treas 6¼% 2010	98[illegible]	- [illegible]	6.45	6.60
5,273	Conv 9% 2011	121[illegible]	- [illegible]	7.48	6.62
5,360	Treas 9% 2012	122[illegible] †	- [illegible]	7.37	6.61
1,000	Treas 5½% 2008-12	91[illegible]	- [illegible]	6.02	6.45
800	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	118[illegible]	- [illegible]	7.04	6.65
	LONGS (over 15 years)				
6,100	Treas 8% 2013	113[illegible]	- [illegible]	7.04	6.50
13,787	Treas 8% 2015	115[illegible]	- [illegible]	6.91	6.51
7,550	Treas 8¾% 2017	124[illegible]	- [illegible]	7.04	6.54
16,500	Tr 8% 2021	118[illegible]	- [illegible]	6.76	6.47
	UNDATED				
1,909	War Ln 3½%	53[illegible]	- [illegible]	6.56	
475	Treas 2½%	37[illegible]	+ [illegible]	6.70	
359	Consols 4%	59	- [illegible]	6.78	...
	INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:			5%	3%
2,150	Treas IL 2½% 2001	193[illegible]	- [illegible]	3.20	3.49
2,400	Treas IL 2½% 2003	190[illegible]	- [illegible]	3.17	3.37
1,150	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	123[illegible]	- [illegible]	3.12	3.26
2,500	Treas IL 2% 2006	203[illegible]	- [illegible]	3.16	3.29
2,625	Treas IL 2½% 2009	185[illegible]	- [illegible]	3.11	3.22
3,100	Treas IL 2½% 2011	190[illegible]	- [illegible]	3.11	3.20
3,750	Treas IL 2½% 2013	160[illegible]	- [illegible]	3.11	3.19
3,825	Treas IL 2½% 2016	173[illegible]	- [illegible]	3.10	3.17
3,700	Treas IL 2½% 2020	169[illegible]	- [illegible]	3.12	3.18
3,850	Treas IL 2½% 2024	141[illegible]	- [illegible]	3.11	3.17
1,380	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	130[illegible]	- [illegible]	3.11	3.16

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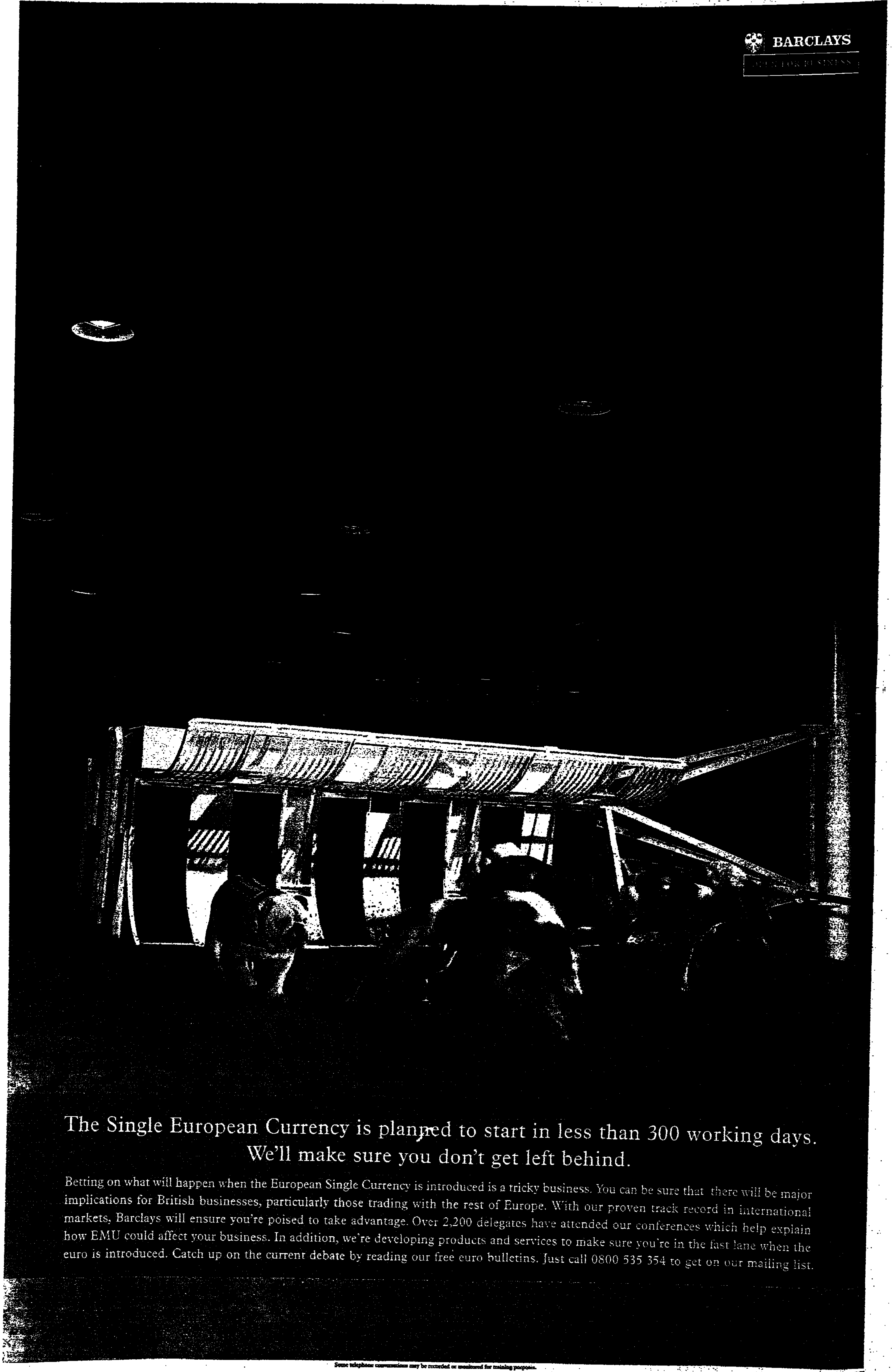

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BMW gives blessing to Mayflower Vickers bid

By Fraser Nelson

BMW has given its blessing to Mayflower's planned bid for Vickers, the engineering group, and is prepared to mount a bid for Rolls-Royce Motors if the widely expected takeover attempt should fail.

Industry sources say that BMW has promised the back-up action to ensure that the Vickers Rolls-Royce division does not fall to one of Mayflower's rivals.

It has let its position become known to dissuade any other engineering companies from entering the arena once Mayflower makes its approach later this week.

BMW yesterday poured cold water over weekend reports that it is prepared to mount an independent bid for the entire Vickers group. It has the £1 billion of cash needed to gazump a Mayflower offer, but its ownership of Vickers's other divisions would trigger problems that could be resolved only by expensive disposals.

The main problem centres around Cosworth, Vickers's car engines and precision castings division. Ford, the US carmaker, is one of Cosworth's main customers and is expected to be gravely concerned that the division could pass to BMW's hands. BMW would also be reluctant to own Vickers's defence interests, which include making Challenger 2 tanks.

BMW has maintained a close relationship with Mayflower since its acquisition of Rover, which is Mayflower's biggest UK customer. As its primary interest is in building close links with Rolls-Royce Motors, not outright ownership, Mayflower's offer represents a much cheaper option. However, it would sooner pay a premium in cash than see control pass to one of its rivals.

Daimler-Benz, which owns Mercedes, is among the main automotive giants widely expected to place a bid for Rolls-Royce should it come to an auction.

Sir Colin Chandler, chief excecutive of Vickers, is planning to auction Rolls-Royce as its main line of defence against Mayflower's bid. It could raise as much as £500 million from the disposal, and has said it could return much of this to shareholders.

Sir Colin is this morning expected to complain to the London Stock Exchange that Mayflower, led by John Simpson, has violated takeover codes by leaking the prospect of a takeover without any sign of a formal offer. He has already accused Mayflow of waging a "phoney war".

Vickers shares stood at 249p on Friday, almost 50 per cent higher than their year's low and valuing the company at £841 million. Mr Simpson is expected to launch Mayflower's formal bid later this week, valuing Vickers towards the £950 million mark. The offer is likely to be in cash, with a paper alternative. However, the bid will be pulled if the troubles in Far Eastern markets triggers another downturn in London shares this week.

John Simpson, chief executive of Mayflower, is expected to launch his company's formal bid for Vickers this week

Siberian offer by oil producer

By Richard Miles

UK INVESTORS will be given the chance to tap into the natural resources of Siberia when one of the region's oil producers comes to the stock market this winter.

EuroSov Energy, an oil producer with a portfolio of assets in Western Siberia, said yesterday that it would seek a full listing on the London Stock Exchange by the end of the year.

The listing will be accompanied by a fully underwritten placing for £15 million to £20 million and is expected to result in a market capitalisation of about £40 million. Guinness Mahon is acting as sponsor and underwriter.

EuroSov Energy has equity in three Russian joint stock companies, including a 95 per cent holding in Magma and 40 per cent of Sinco. The two companies hold licences for five oilfields. The company is chaired by Scott Nelson, a former Amerada Hess chief executive.

☐ CRC Group, a repairer of electronic and computer components, is to seek a quotation on the Alternative Investment Market. A placing sponsored by Neilson Cobbold is expected to raise £2.2 million.

Listing jackpot for founder of Range

By Fraser Nelson

JOHN ARMSTRONG, the founder of the Range Cooker Company, is to pocket £750,000 when his oven importer joins the Alternative Investment Market this month valued at £6.75 million.

Mr Armstrong, who currently owns 100 per cent of the company, will also emerge a paper millionaire with his remaining 73 per cent stake in the firm worth £4.91 million.

The company, whose cookers are seen as centrepieces for the most fashionable kitchens, is raising £1.75 million to start making its own cookers. At present, it imports from Italy, rebrands the cookers as "Britannia", and resells them from Harrods and John Lewis.

Although the vast majority of its profits come from the South East, the company remains based in Blackpool. Last year it made a pre-tax profit of £990,000 on sales of £4.9 million. The cookers, aimed exclusively at the domestic market, sell for anything from £1,200 to £6,000 and come at a maximum length of five feet.

Smith & Williamson has advised the placing, which has seen the shares placed with private investors. They are due to begin trading on November 24.

Safeway plans computer aid for suppliers

By Fraser Nelson

SAFEWAY, the supermarket chain, is to allow food suppliers access to its central stock computer so they can see which stores are running out of which products.

The scheme, which Safeway believes to be the first of its kind in the UK, is designed to improve top-up deliveries by letting suppliers check how well their goods are selling in individual stores.

Safeway, which launched customer self-scanning earlier this year, has developed an Internet service using a high-security computer language unreadable to rival supermarkets. Any supplier who has a desktop computer and a modem will be able to see information gathered by the bar-scanning checkout computers in each Safeway store.

Walkers Crisps, Birds Eye and Walls are among the first subscribers to the service, which will go live later this month. A further 23 suppliers are expected to sign up within the next two months.

A Safeway spokesman said: "This system should develop the closest working relationship between Safeway and its suppliers, rather than the traditional buyer-seller interface. This is obviously the very beginning, but we have seen a heck of a lot of enthusiasm already. We are still expecting to learn a lot along the way."

At present, supermarkets have to order replacement stock three to four days after it leaves the shelves. Under the new system, suppliers will still have to wait for official orders but with instant access to the database, the whole process will be speeded up.

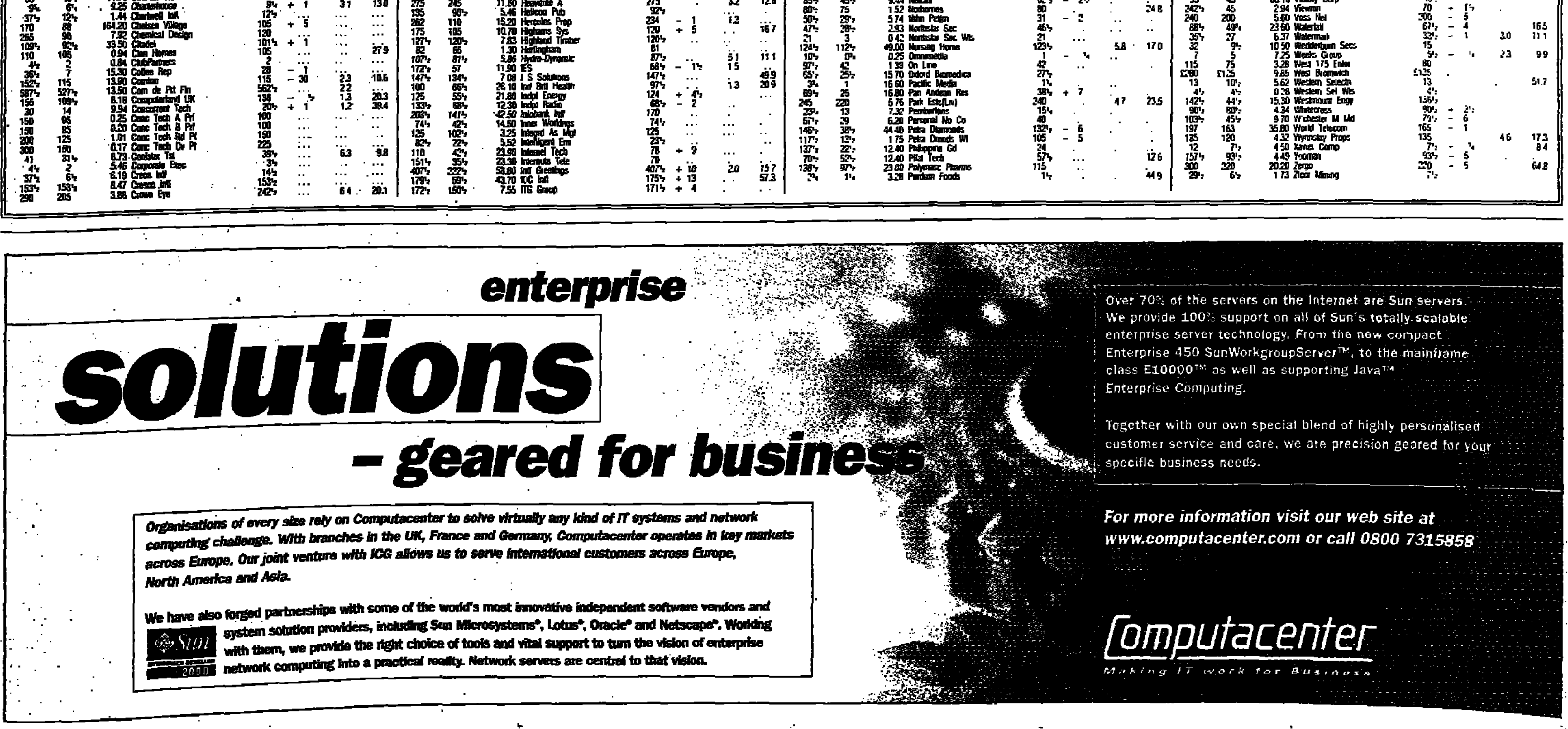
Safeway's high-tech reforms could also see the introduction of digital shelf price tags, a system used by its US namesake but which has yet to make an impact on the British high street. The tags, which are developed by London-listed Electronic Retail Systems, can be automaticaly updated through radio waves sent through a computer in the central office.

Supporters of the new system believe it will be as successful as the bar-code scanner, but Safeway is understood to be waiting until the average cost comes down before taking the shelf systems nationwide.

High-tech: Safeway has already launched self-scanning

ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT MARKET

1997 High	Low	Mkt cap (million)		Price pence	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
420½	190½	13.50	[illegible]	[illegible]			
[illegible]	237½	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]		8.7	6.8
[illegible]	170	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]			...
227½	184½	7.81	Abacus Recruit	128	+ 5	1.6	...
195	99½	28.50	Access Plus	171½	+ 3½	3.8	19.6
89¼	5¾	3.30	Active Imaging	8	...	...	...
230	200	31.30	A de Gruchy	210	...	4.4	10.7
11¾	6¾	7.46	African Gold	7¼	+ ¼	...	29.3
117½	72½	39.40	Airtech	86½	- 2	...	...
44½	31¼	13.10	Albemarle & Bd	34½	- ½	1.8	13.1
52½	29	5.97	Alizyme	34½	+ 2	...	...
111½	73½	2.40	Anglo-Welsh	77½	...	1.6	...
610	455	57.80	Ann St Brewery	602½	+ 5	4.5	10.7
1240	1015	7.21	Ann St Cv Pf	1217½	...	6.6	...
129½	65½	73.90	Antonov	96½	- 3½	...	...
148½	99½	19.90	Aortech	115½	+ 1	...	...
105	90	4.64	Aran Resources	90	...	5.8	...
100½	90	9.18	Archer Dedicated	90	...	1.1	...
282½	130	47.30	Ask Central	227½	+ 2½	0.3	35.2
69½	64½	1.22	Athelney Trust	67½	...	1.9	58.4
103½	61½	45.70	Avalon Oil	81½	- 2	...	...
144½	124	39.38	BATM Adv Comms	126½	+ 1	2.3	...
240	14½	9.35	BKG Res	23½	- 3	...	...
3¾	3½	2.57	Bakery Services	3½	...	...	19.1
59½	25	6.78	Barbican Health	45½	+ 6	...	...
12¾	6½	32.80	Beresford	12¾	...	...	...
3¾	1¾	3.30	Beechcroft	1¾	...	...	6.7
4½	2½	5.80	Beaufort	3	...	2.8	16.6
45½	36½	6.43	Bickerton	42	+ 1	...	17.3
90	80	1.22	Billam	76	..	8.7	23.2
78½	43½	3.92	Bilston Bttrsea	44	...	4.3	22.8
2¾	1	5.77	Birchin Intl	1½	...	..	...
1¼	0¾	0.07	Birchin Wts	0¾	...	..	...
64	33½	20.00	Birmingham City	40	- ½	...	...
80½	70½	7.35	Blakes Cloth	73½	- 1	2.5	8.0
225	145	1.57	Bowness Lev	225	...	2.8	8.4
62½	39½	7.64	Brancote Hldgs	41½	- 1	..	..
97	85	3.93	Br Bloodstock	93½	- 1½	2.7	11.4
17½	16½	0.74	Buckland Inv	17½	...	...	..
12	8	0.08	Buckland Inv Wts	10	...	...	..
200	144½	21.80	CA Coutts Hldgs	185	...	2.1	14.7
180	128½	11.90	C & B Publishing	165	...	...	15.2
109½	109½	0.12	CCI Founder Shs	109½	...	...	..
190½	140½	1.51	CCI Hldgs	167½	...	1.9	8.5
215	170	9.73	Cafe Inns	198½	+ 2½	1.9	15.0
70	55	7.38	Caledonian Tst	60	...	...	10.2
17¾	9	3.66	Cambridge Min Res	16½	+ 2¼	...	...
3¼	2	2.70	Cambury Inv	2	- ¼	...	...
1½	0½	0.68	Cambury Inv Wts	0¾	...	...	...
51	29	40.10	Card Clear	38	- ½	0.3	34.7
97½	52½	5.61	Carisbrooke Ship	55½	...	7.9	9.0
62	45	2.58	Cassidy Bros	47	...	8.0	53.7
57½	42½	2.22	Cavendish W	50½	...	4.2	23.2
18	10½	3.67	Celebrated Group	11	...	3.3	19.6
£550	£245	82.50	Celtic	£275	...	...	17.3
£450	£225	45.30	Celtic Pf Shs	£245	...	1.5	...
112½	96½	24.00	Cl Comms(TV)	109½	+ 1	3.5	...
65	49½	11.70	Charlton Alb	59½	...	..	16.7
9¾	6¼	9.25	Charterhouse	9¼	+ 1	3.1	13.0
37½	12½	1.44	Chartwell Intl	12½	...	...	...
170	88	164.20	Chelsea Village	105	+ 5	...	...
265	90	7.92	Chemical Design	120	...	...	...
109½	92½	33.50	Citadel	101½	+ 1	...	...
110	105	0.94	Clan Homes	105	...	..	27.9
4½	2	0.84	ClubPartners	2	...	..	...
36½	7	15.30	Coffee Rep	28	- 1	...	...
152½	115	13.90	Comdon	115	- 30	2.3	10.6
587½	527½	13.50	Com de Pnt Fin	562½	...	2.2	...
155	109½	8.16	Computerland UK	136	- ½	1.3	20.3
30	14	9.94	Concurrent Tech	20½	+ 1	1.2	39.4
150	95	0.25	Conc Tech A Pf	100	...	...	...
150	85	0.20	Conc Tech B Pf	100	...	...	...
200	125	1.01	Conc Tech Rd Pf	190	...	...	...
300	150	0.17	Conc Tech Cv Pf	225	...	...	...
41	31½	8.73	Coolstar Tst	39½	...	6.3	9.8
4½	2	5.46	Corporate Exec	3½	...	...	...
37½	6½	6.19	Creos Intl	14½	...	...	...
153½	153½	8.47	Cresco Intl	153½	...	...	...
290	205	3.88	Crown Eye	242½	...	6.4	20.1
28½	2½	1.29	Crown Products	2½	- ¼		6.8
22½	18½	3.93	Dalkeith Ins	19½			
150	84½	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]		5.0	14.8
252¾	115	11.00	Dawn Til Dusk	230	- 2½	0.8	17.9
262½	180	109.70	Dawson Hldgs	193½	+ 1	3.1	18.7
17½	10½	6.48	Dean Corp	14		5.4	6.8
174½	167½	10.60	Deep Sea Leisure	167½	...		23.8
4½	2	5.49	Denbraster	4¼		2.6	...
450	295	40.00	Dicom	310	+ 1½	1.8	..
105½	89½	13.90	Digital Anmtn	94½		...	...
101½	74½	8.25	Delyn Group	95	...	2.6	45.9
72½	39½	7.43	Dmatek	39½		...	...
310	240	11.70	Dobbies Garden	244	- 1	2.3	14.3
148½	122½	14.20	Dragons Health	142½	+ 6	...	26.9
3¼	2	2.08	Drings of Bath	2¾	+ ¼	..	25.5
42½	30	3.38	Eagle	34½			
88½	49½	15.90	Easynet	77½	+ 4		...
462½	207½	87.00	Elec Retail Sys	412½	+ 20	...	
80½	27½	30.30	Electrophoretics	39	- 2½	...	
52½	7½	2.91	Epic Multimedia	12½	+ 1½	...	...
65	45	11.60	Epicure Metals	45		...	...
275	110	4.62	Eurasia Mining	125	...	...	..
27	19	1.89	European Mng Fin	23	..	...	..
2½	2½	0.03	European Mng Fin Wts	2½	..	...	..
180	125	7.20	Euro Sales Fn	160	..	...	17.1
3¾	3	3.69	Fairplace Cons	3		...	
350	140	5.20	Fartake	200	...		15.6
77½	47½	7.83	Faynwood	55½		1.8	25.9
191½	101½	40.90	Fibernet	110	- 2½		..
69½	34½	1.73	Fieldens	34½	...	...	
242½	202½	5.95	Fine Pubs	212½	..	...	...
14½	4	0.81	First Intnr	4			
208½	109½	51.60	Fitness First	187½	- 7½		67.5
230	110	3.38	Flomerics	130	..	2.9	63.7
292½	105	3.25	Floral St	105	..	1.8	7.0
32½	22½	4.72	FNR Hldgs	22½	..		
152½	105½	11.30	Formscan	106½		2.6	
120½	89½	10.70	Fountain Forestry	119	+ 5	2.9	16.9
51¼	33¾	173.50	Freepages	35¼	- ¾		
181½	140½	10.70	Furlong Homes	177½	...	3.0	9.4
164½	62	7.21	Future Int Telep	65	- 9½	..	..
296	129½	14.70	GB Railways	167½	..	..	
65	52½	6.93	GR Hldgs	52½			
55½	45½	14.20	Gall Thomson Env	45½		3.4	9.7
16¼	11½	36.50	Gander Hldgs	12½		...	...
124½	82½	91.80	Gartland W&B	105½	...	1.8	5.0
130½	54½	127.50	Geo Int Media	127½	+ 20	...	
33½	12	28.20	Gold Mns Sard	21¾	- 2½	..	
26	7	7.77	Gold Mns Sard Wts	14½	- 2		...
127½	107½	67.30	Goshawk Insce	117½	...	1.3	..
3½	2¾	2.75	Grosmont Hldgs	2¾		...	
1¾	0½	1.80	Grosmont Hldgs Wts	1½	..	..	
15¼	11¼	1.59	Grosvenor Ltd	13			
171½	140	38.40	Guiton	170	...	3.6	12.8
8¼	5¾	2.59	Hansom	6¾			
175	150	13.80	Hardy Underwg	150		1.7	24.5
80½	54½	3.06	Hat Pin	69½	...	5.0	22.7
325	275	6.83	Heavitree	325		2.7	15.1
275	245	11.80	Heavitree A	275		3.2	12.8
135	90½	5.46	Helicon Pub	92½			
262	110	15.20	Hercules Prop	234	- 1	1.2	...
175	105	10.70	Highams Sys	120	+ 5	..	16.7
127½	120½	7.83	Highland Timber	120½			
82	65	1.30	Hurlingham	81			
107½	81½	5.86	Hydro-Dynamic	87½	..	5.1	11.1
172½	57	11.90	IES	68½	- 1½	1.5	
147½	134½	7.08	I S Solutions	147½	...		49.9
100	66½	26.10	Ind Brit Health	97½	..	1.3	20.9
125	55½	21.80	Indpt Energy	124	+ 4½		...
133½	68½	12.30	Indpt Radio	68½	- 2	..	
203½	141½	42.50	Infobank Intl	170	...	...	
74½	42½	14.50	Inner Workings	74½	...		
125	102½	3.25	Integrd As Mgt	125	...		
82½	22½	5.52	Intelligent Env	23½	...		
110	42½	23.90	Internet Tech	78	+ 9	...	
151½	35½	23.30	Interoute Tele	70			
407½	222½	58.80	Intl Greetings	407½	+ 10	2.0	15.7
179½	59½	43.70	IOC Intl	175½	+ 13		57.3
172½	150½	7.55	ITG Group	171½	+ 4		
156½	62½	5.72	Jacobean Ins	65	- 2½		24.0
139½	62½	5.39	Jacopo	131½			11.0
347	298	24.40	[illegible]	[illegible]		[illegible]	21.7
4¾	3	4.49	J Lewis Hlord	3¾	- ¼		15.7
62½	40	7.37	Jordec	45½	+ 5½	..	..
5¾	1½	5.51	Just Group	2¾	+ ¾	..	..
132½	91½	47.10	KS Biomedix	111	..	..	...
50½	45½	5.23	Kern River	45½	...	...	...
78	49½	6.10	Keystone Soll	54½	+ 3	..	..
35	17½		Keystone Wts	22½	+ 5	..	
199½	172½	18.70	Kingfisher Ls	192½	...	1.3	16.1
130½	118½	5.23	Lady In Leisure	124½	+ 2	...	...
98	92½	4.28	Landround	95	+ ½	4.3	16.7
132½	24½	9.38	La Senza	28			
150	85	17.40	Enterprises	93½		5.9	
395	340	26.90	Lawrence	385		2.5	16.1
4050	3150	75.00	Lawne Group	3950		2.4	10.3
99½	76½	7.03	Lepco	95	+ 2½		37.4
498	326	80.10	Le Riches Strs	482½		5.2	18.5
14	9	0.46	Life Numbers	9¾	..	...	
4	2	0.06	Life Numbrs Wts	2	..	...	..
535	480	9.90	Loades	495	..	0.3	19.7
106½	32½	13.80	Lollies Road	34½			
12¾	4¾	2.13	Lon & Edin Publ	7	- ¾		
80	65	2.00	London Town	80		4.1	7.0
119½	112½	3.88	Longbridge Intl	117½		2.1	16.4
87½	25½	6.15	Loot	26½	- 3½	..	
3¾	1¾	3.46	Lotteryking	2	+ ¼	...	68.0
1	0½	0.09	Lotteryking Wts	0½		..	
88	36½	4.88	MMS Petroleum	40		..	
27½	7½	5.41	Magnum Power	8½	...		
298½	239½	37.80	Majestic Wine	295½	+ 12	1.5	25.1
19½	8	5.10	Manx & O'seas	8½		4.8	47.0
102½	95½	27.10	Marlborough Intnl	102½	+ 2		17.4
125	105	2.47	Matrix Hlthcare	107½		7.0	17.3
13¼	10¼	4.54	Mears Group	12¼	+ ½	3.1	11.3
26½	13½	44.30	Medisys	26½	+ 1	...	
98½	73½	45.20	Megalomedia	73½	- 2½	0.3	34.9
93½	65	0.71	Megalomedia Wts	65	..		
67½	39½	2.80	Meltek	40		7.8	29.5
65	22½	27.60	Memory Corp	39½	- 5½	..	...
99½	70½	88.50	Metalsrussia	88½	+ 3	..	
165	18	1.28	Meteor Tech	18	- 10		
75	6½	0.63	Meteor Tech Wts	6½	- 11		
71½	46	5.65	Methven's	66½	- 2		
25	11	2.71	Metrodome	11			
34½	57½	4.67	Mondas	76½			
350	200	29.40	Moorepay	272½	- 2½	2.1	32.2
126½	88½	6.84	Mountcashel	90	- 11½		...
215	110½	23.10	Mulberry Group	111½		1.7	19.1
40	2	1.01	MultiMedia	3½	+ 1		
21	16	1.18	NECA	16		5.9	8.2
54½	44½	19.10	NMT	48½			
72½	57½	1.67	NRP	57½		2.7	34.5
170½	140	16.30	NSB Retail Sys	167½		0.9	65.0
285	185	15.70	NWF Grp	199	+ 9	5.0	11.6
220	180	12.60	Nash (Wm)	180		5.3	6.3
300	260	7.28	Neill Clerk	260		1.8	..
85½	45½	9.44	Netcall	62½	- 2½		
80½	75	1.52	Nodomes	80			24.8
50½	29½	5.74	Nthn Petrln	31	- 2	..	..
47½	28½	2.93	Northstar Sec	46½		..	..
21	3	0.42	Northstar Sec Wts	21	...		
124½	112½	49.00	Nursing Home	123½		5.8	17.0
10½	0½	0.25	Omnimedia	1	- ¼	..	
97½	42	1.39	On Line	42	..		
65½	25½	15.70	Oxford Biomedica	27½			
3¾	1	16.60	Pacific Media	1¼		..	
69½	25	16.80	Pan Andean Res	38½	+ 7		
245	220	5.76	Park Este(Liv)	240		4.7	23.5
23½	13	7.32	Pembertons	15½			
51½	29	6.20	Personal No Co	40			
146½	38½	44.40	Petra Diamonds	132½	- 6		
117½	13½	1.75	Petra Dmnds Wt	105	- 5		
137½	22½	12.40	Philippine Gd	24			
70½	52½	12.40	Pilat Tech	57½	...		12.6
138½	97½	23.00	Polymasc Pharms	115			
2½	1¼	3.28	Pordam Foods	1½	..		44.9
1½	0½	0.22	Pordam Fds Wts	1			...
21½	12½	11.80	[illegible]	13½	[illegible]		40.5
10½	2¼	12.20	[illegible]	[illegible]		0.4	[illegible]
590	500	10.00	Preston Nth E	500	- 10		76.5
104½	92½	14.80	Primary Hlth Pr	92½	..	4.3	27.8
590	280	81.00	Prism Rail	320	+ 2½		
65½	56½	10.20	Pycroft & Arnold	65½	+ 1½		10.5
127½	87½	14.90	Q Group	89½			65.3
1265	732½	240.10	Ramco Egy	795	+ 7½	0.2	
110½	77½	14.40	Raphael Zrn	97½	..	2.6	8.8
127½	79½	12.90	Recycling Servs	79½	- 1½	5.0	
125	68½	9.11	Reflec	73½			..
7¼	4¼	5.57	Revelation Pic	6	+ ½	2.1	7.0
45	17½	19.80	Riceman Insce	30	- ¾		33.7
102½	74½	5.23	Romtec	100½	- 2	1.9	21.6
147½	105½	9.76	SBS	137½	+ 4	2.2	24.2
182½	152½	18.10	SCI Ent	155			14.5
42½	17½	4.34	SEA Multimedia	17½	- 2		..
75½	62½	6.81	Sanctuary Music	69½			6.1
174½	139½	29.70	Science Sys	174½	+ 24	1.1	25.8
12½	5½	0.80	Scotswood Inds	7½	..		
6	3¾	9.71	Screen	4¾			19.6
350	230	11.30	Scruttons	235		6.9	44.5
82	42½	8.29	Selector	42½			
30½	17½	7.01	Self Sealing	17½			..
177½	154½	11.90	Shalibane	167½		3.3	13.9
104½	74	4.53	Shelton (M)	85½		6.2	15.6
25½	12½	67.00	Sibir Energy	25	..		
270	208½	39.90	Sinclair Montrs	242			52.6
4½	2¾	7.13	Sira Bus Serv	3¼		2.1	14.7
1½	1	0.24	Sira Bus Wts	1½			
3¾	0¾	5.06	Snakeboard	0¾			
84½	67½	4.25	Solid State Sp	67½		5.6	24.0
192½	152½	8.69	Solitaire	190½		3.9	14.2
34½	25½	2.58	Soundtracs	25½		5.9	7.6
6½	3½	5.67	South Beach Cafe	3½			
783	619½	184.10	Southern News	757½	- 1½	3.3	
74½	65½	14.80	Southern Vectis	74½	+ 5	3.5	15.5
295	173½	35.50	Stallware	293½	+ 13½	0.4	38.4
635	117½	23.40	Stanford Rook	121½			
177½	124½	15.80	Stenior	135	- 1½		
70	37½		Stenior Warrants	60	+ 2½		
107½	77½	16.90	Style Hldgs	107½	+ 5	1.7	13.2
155	127	14.50	Sutton Harbour	145		2.9	20.7
22	5	1.21	Syst Integ Rsch	9	- 1		
23	16	3.48	TDS Circuits	16½			6.2
97½	55½	9.07	Theo Fennell	56	- 1		16.3
14	5½	10.30	Thomas Potts	5½		2.3	17.2
37½	22½	2.89	Tom Hoskins	37	- 3½		
158½	80	13.60	Total Office	84½	- 2	7.1	5.5
675	375	33.10	TRACKER Netwk	625	+ 45		40.1
150	55	35.60	Tradepoint Fcl	130			
167	140	5.04	Trinity Care	140		4.5	30.0
170	170	1.50	Trinity Care Pf	170		5.5	
60½	17½	112.10	Trocadero	22			
40	38	3.46	Unwerd	38			21.0
397½	317½	5.85	Utd Auctions	325		3.5	8.7
280	120	18.90	VDC	180	+ 22	3.6	16.7
53	45	88.10	Victory Corp	46½			
242½	45	2.94	Viewrun	70	+ 1½		
240	200	5.60	Voss Net	200	- 5		
88½	49½	23.60	Waterlat	67½	- 4		16.5
35½	27	6.37	Watermark	33½	- 1	3.0	11.1
32	9½	10.50	Wedderburn Secs	15			
7	5	7.25	Weeks Group	5½	- ¼	2.3	9.9
115	75	3.28	West 175 Enter	80			
£280	£125	9.85	West Bromwich	£135			
13	10½	5.62	Western Selectn	13			51.7
4½	4½	0.28	Western Sel Wts	4½			
142½	44½	15.30	Westmount Engy	136½			
90½	80½	4.34	Whitecross	90½	+ 2½		
103½	45½	9.70	W'chester M Mid	79½	- 6		
197	163	35.80	World Telecom	165	- 1		
185	120	4.32	Wynnclay Props	135		4.6	17.3
12	7½	4.50	Xavier Comp	7½	- ¼		8.4
157½	93½	4.49	Yoomn	93½	- 5		
300	220	20.20	Zergo	220	- 5		64.2
29½	6½	1.73	Zicor Mining	7½			



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THE FACTS

Market cap: £23 billion.
Total revenue: £6.75 billion
Pre-tax profit: £2.5 billion.
Group assets: £147 billion.
Total return to shareholders: 35 per cent.
Capital base: tier 1 ratio 6.5 per cent
Employees (worldwide): 82,000.
Businesses:
Personal and corporate banking, mortgages, insurance and credit cards, stockbroking and commercial banking.

THE BOARD

Sir Brian Pitman, chairman. Chief executive for 14 years before his elevation to chairman in February. Has been with Lloyds man and boy, having joined in 1952.
Peter Ellwood, group chief executive. Formerly chief executive of TSB, he is said to be on exactly the same wavelength as Sir Brian. A former chief executive of Barclaycard, he is also chairman of Visa International.
Sir Nicholas Goodison, deputy chairman. A former stockbroker who was TSB chairman and chairman of the London Stock Exchange for 20 years.
John T. Davies, deputy chairman. Another long-time employee of Lloyds Bank after joining straight from school. He is also chairman of the Office of the Banking Ombudsman.
Alan Moore, deputy chief executive and the bank's treasurer. He has been with Lloyds since 1980. A former director-general of the Bahrain Monetary Agency.
Andrew Longhurst, director of customer finance. Took a seat on the board as compensation for his loss of office as chief executive of Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society, acquired by Lloyds Bank in 1994.
■ Non-executive directors:
Sir David Plastow, the former chairman of Vickers and Inchcape, as well as the former deputy chairman of Guinness and Bupa. Chairs the remuneration committee and was deputy chairman of TSB Group from 1991 to 1995.
Sir Ian Prosser, chairman and chief executive of Bass. Also sits on the Boots board.
Sir Michael Quinlan, formerly permanent secretary at the Department of Employment and Ministry of Defence. He is a non-executive director of Pilkington.

CORPORATE [illegible]

Sir Brian Pitman, left, made the black horse bank a frontrunner with a strategy that involved taking over the TSB, headed by Sir Nicholas Goodison and Peter Ellwood, and Cheltenham & Gloucester, led by Andrew Longhurst. Now Lloyds TSB is facing the challenge of newcomers such as Sainsbury

Ten years ago, Lloyds Bank was, quite literally, the dark horse of the high street, placed well down the field behind the other Big Four banks. Since then, it has pulled clear of the pack and arguably now sets the pace for the other runners.

Much of the credit for this change in fortunes rests at the door of Sir Brian Pitman, chief executive of Lloyds Bank for almost 14 years and its chairman since February. In banking circles, his achievement has become enshrined as the "Pitman model".

Simply put, the Pitman model dictates that banks should stick to the knitting, and only profitable knitting at that. They should aim to be the best in their chosen markets, and if they cannot reasonably hope to be the best, then they should withdraw. So, while Barclays and NatWest ventured into investment banking with less than profitable results, Lloyds TSB kept its eye firmly on the high street.

Acquisitions have been a key plank in this strategy. After failing to net the overstretched Midland Bank in 1992 after its disastrous foray into America — the bank fell to HSBC Holdings — Lloyds sparked off the demutualisation process by buying Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society for £1.8 billion in 1994. The deal boosted the bank's share of the mortgage market to almost 10 per cent.

But the most important deal was the merger with TSB, announced in late 1995. This paper-based transaction formed a combined group with a market capitalistion of £13 billion and 15 million customers, and created the largest branch network in the country. TSB shareholders picked up close to £1 billion in special payments.

With expansion on the high street has come a change in attitude and culture. Staff are exhorted to think of themselves not only as bankers, but as retailers too. Significantly, Sir Brian, unveiling record profits of £2.5 billion in February, referred to the group's competitors as "other retailers".

The unkind among Lloyds' critics say it was force of circumstances that drove Sir Brian to adopt this approach. Lloyds had its fingers badly burnt in Latin America during the late Eighties. Unsound lending in the region forced the bank into the red twice, first in 1987 with a provision of £1.07 billion and again in 1989 with a £1.5 billion write-off. Lloyds was simply in no fit position to expand either overseas or into other fields, say the critics, although this did not stop the bank trying it on with Standard Chartered.

Lloyds, however, seeks to portray its focus on the UK retail market as one of deliberate intent. What is beyond dispute is the profitability of this strategy. Over the past two years, the bank's share price has almost quadrupled and earnings per share have grown 65 per cent faster than the market as a whole. In 1996 alone, its share price increased by 30 per cent, against 12 per cent for the FTSE All-share index. Including dividends, shareholders received a 35 per cent return on their investment. Once the ugly duckling, Lloyds became the darling of the financial sector.

Sir Brian has yielded his position as chief executive to his second-in-command, Peter Ellwood, an old TSB hand. But there will be no change of strategy. Mr Ellwood has made plain that he intends to follow his predecessor's line. "There are three strategic themes. First, to be the leader in our chosen markets, and in terms of profits and profitability, not just size. Secondly, to be the first choice for our 15 million customers, largely through improved use of technology. And thirdly, to drive down our annual operational costs from £3.8 billion to £3.4 billion by 1999," he says.

This will inevitably mean closing branches, and possibly redundancies. Mr Ellwood is convinced job losses can be absorbed by "natural wastage": annual staff turnover is about 6,000. But a report published last month by Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the investment bank, suggests the pain of branch closures, deferred for two years while the banks waited for parliamentary approval of their merger, could be a lot harsher.

The banking analysts say Lloyds TSB could close more than 800 branches without serious repercussions for its network coverage, and save a further £300 million a year. This would still leave Lloyds TSB with the one of largest branch networks in the country — more than 1,900 outlets.

Mr Ellwood is unlikely to have such an easy ride as Sir Brian. New entrants to the market, led by Halifax, not to mention the likes of Richard Branson's Virgin Bank, are threatening to play Lloyds TSB at its own game. At the same time, the bank's traditional rivals are again focusing their efforts on the battle for high street customers.

Mr Ellwood is not complacent about the threat. "Look at the supermarkets and petrol. At the time, the oil companies ignored the challenge. Now supermarkets like Tesco and Sainsbury have 25 per cent of the market," he says. The clear implication is that the same could happen in financial services. "I wouldn't be surprised if one of our major competitors in ten years' time is someone not in the market now."

With critical mass to the fore, the bank has made no secret of its desire to use some of its surplus capital, said to be in excess of £6 billion, to make further acquisitions. Mr Ellwood says a share buyback is a possibility in the absence of a suitable acquisition target, although the preferred route would be to buy a life insurer, to complement its Abbey Life operation, or a mortgage provider. Lloyds TSB has less than a 10 per cent share in both markets, so an acquisition would avoid a run-in with the competition authorities.

City analysts and some institutional investors envisage a more ambitious acquisition. Dresdner Kleinwort Benson says Lloyds TSB could digest a company as large as Abbey National or Prudential. The latter is known to have begun merger talks with NatWest, only to abandon them because of a difference over strategy. Other names in the frame are Nationwide, the largest mutual building society, and the Norwich Union.

While not ruling out acquisitions on the Continent, Mr Ellwood is more concerned with beefing up the bank's entire distribution channels. The deals struck with Asda and the Post Office give some indication of his thinking.

Reforms are needed in areas such as ethical expression, for which Integrity Works, our independent analyst, rates Lloyds TSB a dismal 4½ out of 10. The bank relies primarily upon its report and accounts and its community report to convey its ethical standards. This falls short of best practice for ethical expression, not least because the information is unconsolidated.

Boardroom pay is an issue. Sir Brian received total remuneration of £2.7 million in 1996, against a more realistic level of £2.2 million, according to Crisp Consulting, which also criticises the number of non-executives — 16 against a recommended maximum of seven. Their average pay was 10 per cent above the average industry level.

RICHARD MILES

"Lloyds' management have distinguished themselves by initiating most of the industry's major themes over the last ten years. These are the retreat from overseas markets, cost-cutting, horizontal integration through TSB, and vertical integration with Cheltenham & Gloucester and Abbey Life. The result is that Lloyds is now perhaps the best retail financial services company in Europe." — *John Aitken, UBS.*

"Lloyds has focused on a consumer financial services business. It hasn't got caught up in some of the traps that other banks have. It made a great strategic deal in its merger with TSB." — *James Hamilton, Credit Lyonnais Laing.*

"The company has a long-term record of high returns to shareholders. It has certainly been one of the main drivers of consolidation in the UK financial services industry. We think there are further benefits to come from its strategy." — *John Leonard, Salomon Brothers.*

Ethical expression[1]	4½/10
Fat-cat quotient[2]	7/10
Financial record	9/10
Share performance	10/10
Attitude to employees	7/10
Strength of brand	7/10
Innovation	8/10
Annual reports	5/10
City star rating	9/10
Future prospects	9/10
Total	75½/100
Total	

Ethical policy is evaluated by [1]*Integrity Works*. The Fat-cat quotient, in which best boardroom pay practice scores highest, is provided by [2]*Crisp Consulting*.

PW and C&L merger vote planned

By Robert Bruce

PROPOSALS to merge Price Waterhouse and Coopers & Lybrand to form what could become the world's largest accountancy firm were sent to their partners at the weekend.

More than 1,000 partners in the UK and a further 7,500 worldwide will be asked to vote on the proposals by the end of the month.

The proposals present the business case for a merger. It is also hoped they will allay fears expressed by partners that a global merger would cause disruption to client relationships, that regulators would insist on the new firm divesting clients to satisfy competition requirements, and that the move would lead to a cull of 10 per cent of partners around the world.

The proposals cover management and governance arrangements, financial details, "the vision and synergy" and outline the next steps in the process, assuming the vote, which requires high majorities around the world, is in favour.

Partners face two questions on which they have to vote. The first, effectively, is: Do we want to merge into a global integrated firm? The second covers the domestic situation, country by country. The result of the vote will be announced early next month.

The proposals do not, inevitably, suggest that there will be any losses of partners. A spokesman for Coopers & Lybrand said that there would be no losses. "We are under-resourced at the moment. We are recruiting like mad." In the UK, Coopers & Lybrand has 592 partners at present and Price Waterhouse 444.

The result of the vote will have a significant influence on the proposed mega-merger of Ernst & Young and KPMG.

City bonuses set to reach £1bn

By Richard Miles, banking correspondent

CITY executives could pocket up to £1 billion in bonus payments this year in spite of the turbulence on the world's stock markets over the past few weeks.

Russell Reynolds Associates, an executive recruitment firm, expects bonus payments to be 20 per cent to 30 per cent higher than in 1996, when investment bankers and fund managers received an estimated £750 million.

The intense competition between banks for top talent has become a global affair, pushing up pay packages to unprecedented levels in all international financial centres, says Russell Reynolds Associates.

In specialist fields such as high-yield and emerging markets, bonuses could exceed 50 per cent. Demand for senior equity research analysts, particularly in technology, media and health, has reached an all-time high.

Elaine Small, managing director, says: "Banks and broking houses are defending their territory at all costs, which naturally feeds a cycle of offers and even higher counter offers. The reality is that the high cost of replacing top talent makes generous compensation a sound defensive strategy."

But Ms Small says the pay increases are largely confined to top performers, even though the "star system" has been blamed for City scandals such as the £450 million Peter Young affair at Deutsche Morgan Grenfell last year and Nick Leeson's single-handed destruction of Barings.

Levitt tussle goes on

By Jon Ashworth

LAWYERS for Roger Levitt, the former financial services salesman, return to the High Court tomorrow in their continuing efforts to prevent his extradition from America.

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) is seeking to prosecute him for allegedly misleading inspectors during an investigation into International Boxing Corporation (IBC), based in London.

It is alleged that Mr Levitt served as a shadow director of IBC in breach of a seven-year disqualification order imposed in 1993, three years after his financial services group collapsed with debts of £34 million. Tomorrow's hearing will deal with an application for further directions. A full hearing into the legality of the extradition moves has been fixed for November 21.

Mr Levitt, who moved to New York with his family last year, was arrested and subsequently released on $1 million bail after it emerged that the charge — furnishing a false explanation of documents — is not an extraditable offence under the US-UK extradition treaty. Mr Levitt's lawyers accused the DTI of misleading the courts in New York and London in its eagerness to secure his return.

▸ REWARDING TIMES ◂

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£1,000 TO BE WON TODAY — TURN TO THE EQUITY PRICES, PAGE 43

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THE TIMES

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It's all very well to say share and share alike, but in all honesty wouldn't you prefer to enjoy at leisure your own copy of the Times Educational Supplement? The FE Focus section, in particular, really does deserve much more than a rushed flick through in the staffroom. So for opinions worth taking the time to listen to, buy your own copy, take it home and keep it to yourself.

FE FOCUS

TES
THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT

French alarm increases over foreign investment

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

A WAVE of protectionist sentiment is sweeping France after the publication of figures showing that foreign investors own a significant slice of the country's industrial base.

They reveal that foreigners have bought stakes of more than 30 per cent in many of the most powerful companies.

France's biggest group, Elf Aquitaine, the oil firm, has seen foreign investors obtain a 50 per cent stake, according to a survey published by *Le Monde* on Friday.

Concern is evident in Paris at what *Le Monde* described as the "growing power of foreigners in French business".

Laurent Fabius, the influential socialist President of the National Assembly, said: "Our big firms are more and more vulnerable to takeovers. It is a serious threat. I think we are going to have to reflect very quickly on this because we cannot let them go abroad."

This view is widely shared across the political spectrum, and is resulting in attempts by the socialist-led Government to hamper foreign investment.

The Finance Ministry, for example, is delaying a decision on whether to allow Generale, the Italian insurer, to proceed with a hostile takeover bid for AGF, its privatised French rival.

Analysts say there is no legal reason to stop the bid, but the three-week delay will give AGF time to mount a counter-offensive. Last month, the Government snubbed its European partners when it opted to create a new defence group around Thomson CSF and Alcatel Alsthom instead of foreign alliances with firms such as GEC.

However, most commentators believe that such decisions amount to little more than irritated gestures by a socialist administration unable to halt globalisation.

France has no private pension funds and no financial groups capable of matching the muscle of foreign investors, who are certain to continue buying its largest companies, many of which have been privatised over the past decade.

Investors based outside France own half the capital in three pillars of gallic industry —Total, the oil firm, Péchiney, the aluminium and packaging concern, and Elf Aquitaine, the survey says.

They own a stake of between 30 and 50 per cent in 19 other big companies, such as L'Oreal, the cosmetics group, and Générale des Eaux, the public utilities provider.

The slice controlled by foreigners rose sharply in the recent stock market turmoil.

Analysts say that the only effective way of stopping "the flight abroad" would be legislation to encourage the creation of French pension funds. However, the Government recently abandoned a plan, drawn up by its centre-right predecessor, to ease the tax burden on private pensions.

Foreign investors have become attracted to L'Oreal

Now Covent Garden hits the buffers

On the face of it, the Royal Opera does not have much in common with the old British Rail, but the news that it is in yet another financial crisis brings home the similarities.

In place of customers, the old BR had "passengers". The opera has "patrons". Like BR, its salvation lies with expressly catering for its customers, and sorting out antediluvian working practices defended by over-mighty trade unions. Whisper it quietly among your arty friends, but the arts need not less market pressure but more.

The arts are just about the last bastion of the view that market forces are the enemy. Over the past 20 years, this view has been in retreat in all sections of our society. Of course, the arts establishment protests that the arts are different. How dare you associate the supreme values of artistic expression with the grubby commercial world!

But what market forces are about is marrying considerations of how much something costs with what people want. The need for this marriage arises from the fact that resources are limited. If they were not, we could have as much as we wanted of everything, whatever the cost. The arts establishment has often behaved as though this was precisely its position, although the Royal Opera now knows otherwise.

Let me give an example. In the summer, I went to a promenade concert of music by Richard Strauss at the Albert Hall. Splendid it was, too. But the hall was only half full. The reason was easy to discern. Two out of three of the works were relatively unknown. The paying public was not prepared to fork out hard-earned cash for that programme. It would have been easy to secure a much bigger audience by replacing one unknown work by a very popular one. Evidently the organisers had not thought this worthwhile. Perhaps they thought that "Art" demanded they perform the two relatively unknown pieces, or perhaps this was more interesting and challenging for the orchestra. But in the process, they not only wasted half of the Albert Hall and, thereby, deprived a few thousand potential customers of an evening's enjoyment of music, but also failed to introduce that few thousand to the one relatively unknown work that they might have accepted as part of a more popular programme.

ROGER BOOTLE

Was this serving the cause of educating the public? It is right for the arts establishment to try to lead popular taste — up to a point. But a leader's first task is to make sure someone is following.

The flip-side of the empty seat syndrome is the underprovision of really popular programmes and, sometimes, their under-pricing. I know this seems incredible for Covent Garden, given the enormous price of tickets, but for the really big occasions, just as with major sporting events, the touts will trade in tickets for substantially more than their face value. The absence of the simple business skills of pricing to the market and adapting the supply of programmes to meet demand mean that actually getting a ticket for something you really want to see becomes a nightmare. Because of this, many people simply do not try.

This does not necessarily mean that the Royal Opera should stage more performances by top names such as Pavarotti because, to use the language of business, it is not clear that these are "profitable". Indeed, we know next to nothing about the financial terms on which one sort of artistic offering may be exchanged for another. Or is it ten others? It would be nice to know how much is paid for top performers and how that squares with takings at the box office.

The arts establishment sometimes deploys an economic argument in support of public subsidy, namely that it is necessary to sustain London as a leading arts centre to bolster its attractions to visitors from overseas, since tourism is one of our leading industries. Quite apart from the fact that most of these tourists are more interested in *Phantom of the Opera* than the Royal Opera, this argument is ridiculously weak. We used to argue something similar about shipbuilding and coalmines until we learnt the error of our ways. If the tourist business cannot compete on its merits then it is not worth the candle. Should we subsidise London hotels on the same principle?

I concede, though, that the arts are different in one fundamental sense. They embody a set of values above and beyond mere commercial considerations. But in this they are not unique. They share this status with the worlds of medicine and education. Most of us would not like the provision of education or medical care to be driven solely by the profit maximising principle. Yet even here the careful management of costs and a healthy regard for the market are vital to ensure that the people employed in these activities serve the public and not themselves. That is vital for the arts as well.

Anyone who loves music (as I do) will wish the Royal Opera well and hope that we can justifiably support two opera houses in London. But in its review of the situation, the Government should make sure that the central principles of business management are given due weight. Properly managed, market pressures can be the friend of the arts and not their enemy.

Complaints blow for British Gas

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

COMPLAINTS over British Gas's service contracts have started to rise again — only months after the company proclaimed that it had turned the corner in its battle with customer difficulties.

New figures from the Gas Consumers Council show an increase in complaints over service contracts for September, which was an unusually warm month and one that does not traditionally mark a jump in calls to British Gas engineers. Consumer concerns have been sparked because an increase now could herald serious problems in the winter months.

A spokeswoman for the Gas Consumers Council said: "We are worried that there has been a rise. Coming ahead of the winter months we are concerned that they will not have the facilities to cope."

British Gas, whose parent group is Centrica, has weathered a hail of consumer anger over the past two years over difficulties in fulfilling its service contract obligations and over billing problems. But an offensive on customer service by the company — which is now busy promoting the sale of electricity — vastly reduced the number of complaints. In September complaints over service contracts increased 16 per cent to 233, taking the total this year to 4,157.

Centrica said it disputed the figures. Its own figures showed that in January there had been 2.5 complaints per 1,000 jobs on service contracts, and the rate now stands at 0.75 per 1,000. The company added that while September had been warm, one cold Monday had triggered a lot of engineer call-outs.

Beckett to bide time on Energy Group

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

MARGARET BECKETT, President of the Board of Trade, is thought unlikely to rule on the £3.7 billion takeover of the Energy Group until the new year after a Monopolies and Mergers Commission inquiry, which has been dogged by concerns over debt levels in the bid.

The MMC has dwelt heavily on the debt issue amid fears that PacifiCorp, the US company bidding for Energy Group, would not be able to provide robust resources for the generating and distribution company. PacifiCorp has offered to inject 35 per cent equity into the offer, which it had originally intended to be driven entirely by debt. The company raised the cash several weeks ago with the sale of its telecoms business for $1.6 billion (£1 billion) and through other disposals.

Debt levels have been high in US bids for UK electricity companies and the issue is thought to have shot up the MMC's agenda as it sought its terms of reference. Referral of the bid to the MMC by Mrs Beckett — soon after the Labour Government came to power — was a surprise. The bid had been supported by the electricity regulator and the Director-General of Fair Trading. It is thought that the MMC highlighted debt and resources as a public interest issue through which to scrutinise PacifiCorp's move.

PacifiCorp is now expected to have spent more than $120 million (£75 million) in its pursuit of Energy Group, which was spun off from the Hanson conglomerate earlier this year.

The MMC is due to report to Mrs Beckett next week but it could ask for more time. Even if its report is delivered on time Mrs Beckett is expected to delay judgment until next year. PacifiCorp and the MMC declined to comment.

Forte deal to buy Savoy in Florence

BY RICHARD MILES

SIR ROCCO FORTE will finally get his hands on the Savoy Hotel next month, but not the swanky London establishment he and his father have long coveted. RF Hotels, the Forte family's new hotels group, will announce shortly that it has joined forces with Ferragamo, the Italian fashion house, to buy the Savoy Hotel in Florence, one of the city's grandest.

Forte: attracted by location

Ferragamo is understood to be paying £35 million for the hotel, and RF has been given an 18-year management contract and the job of refurbishing the hotel at an estimated cost of £5 million. Attracted by the location — it is next to the Duomo cathedral — RF Hotels plans to turn the four-star hotel into a five-star attraction.

Sir Rocco and his father, Lord Forte, tried for a long time to buy the London Savoy group, where they had 50 per cent of the shares but less than half of the votes. Their attempts failed and their shares are now owned by Granada.

Rival offer may be worth £90m in cash

Etam to attract second bid

BY FRASER NELSON

ETAM, the troubled womenswear chain, is expected to find itself at the centre of a two-way power struggle this week as an overseas buyer tables a cash bid which may be as high as £90 million.

The company is understood to be in the closing stages of agreeing a reverse takeover from New Look, a British rival that has been seeking a London listing for two years.

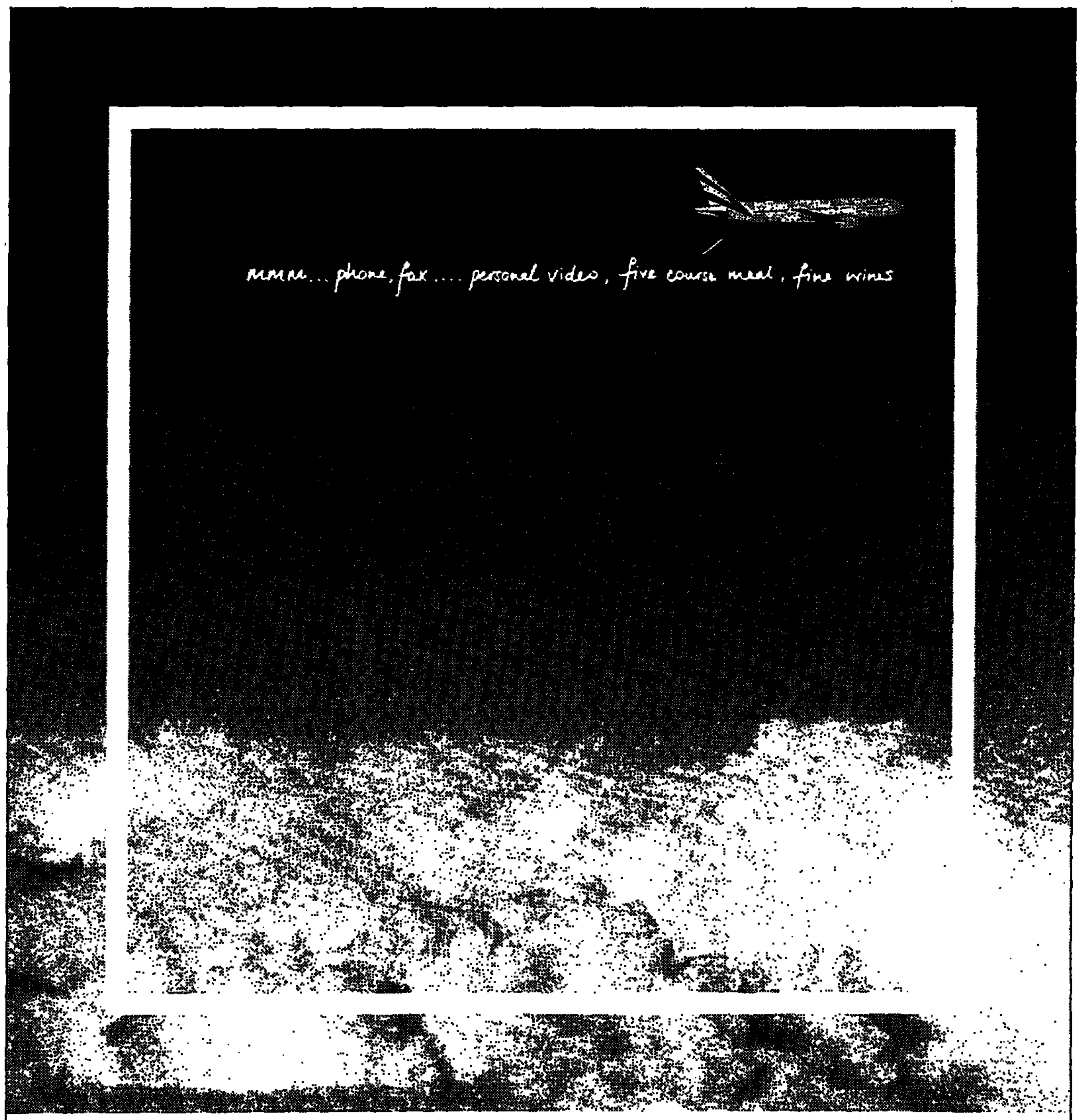
However, industry sources said this is likely to be scuppered by an all-cash offer from an overseas company that is looking to bolster its presence in the UK high street. The second offer, which could be made as early as this week, is also understood to have the approval of PDFM, the fund manager that owns a 15 per cent stake in Etam.

Etam shares are still trading at 118½p, near their low, as investors are expecting little salvation from a reverse takeover.

The emergence of a cash bid would explain last week's comments by Nigel Hollingworth, Etam's managing director, that the company was in talks with "a number of interested parties." City analysts had put this down to exaggeration on the grounds that no other British companies were thought to be interested in buying the business.

Mr Hollingworth also said that the company was not going to be sold in a "fire sale" — another remark which drew confusion from City followers who thought that a reverse takeover was its only option.

It is currently on course to make a pre-tax loss of £9 million for the year to January 31, against the £5.37 million loss last time.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IAN HODGSON/REUTERS

Sir Colin Marshall, left, and Adair Turner on the FA stand at the CBI conference, lending their support to England's bid to host the 2006 World Cup

EMU debate has turned up the heat on 'Red' Adair

Philip Bassett on how the political stance of the Director-General of the CBI has upset former allies

Red Adair in the 1970s was an industrial troubleshooter who spent his time putting out fires on blazing offshore oilrigs. For the Conservatives, at least now, "Red" Adair means someone else: the head of the Confederation of British Industry.

Adair Turner, the Director-General of the CBI, whose annual conference opens in Birmingham this morning, is taking the heat from the Tories over European economic and monetary union. Since the Conservatives decided to oppose Britain's participation in EMU business, at least as represented by the CBI, and the Tories have been on opposite sides of the fence.

Some Tories see the fact that so many Labour ministers will be at the CBI conference — Tony Blair, Gordon Brown, David Blunkett and Margaret Beckett — as clear evidence that Turner and the CBI are sucking up to Labour. CBI conferences always feature a large number of ministers. The difficulty for the Tories is that the ministers now are Labour, rather than Conservatives.

William Hague, the Tory leader, will today liken the CBI to "lemmings" over its embracing of EMU. He said yesterday that he was not picking a fight with the CBI, but wanted to talk to them as a "candid friend".

By contrast, the CBI's Turner has nothing but praise for Hague. He said: "I disagree with William on some aspects of policy — for example, monetary union — but I like and respect him. He's intelligent, he's a good speaker and he's very determined. I would counsel anyone not to underrate him."

Turner, 42, goes back a long way with Hague. In the early 80s, they worked together at McKinsey's, the blue chip management consultants. Hague was the junior member of one of Turner's teams, spending his first three weeks feeding data into a computer, only to be told by Turner that because of a computing problem all his work was wrong and would have to be redone.

Another McKinsey's colleague was Howard Davies, Turner's predecessor as head of the CBI, and now chairman of the Financial Services Authority. In coming after Davies, Turner had a hard act to follow. While he shares Davies's intellectual rigour, he has less of his charm and media-friendliness. While his advisers have lectured Turner on relaxing more on TV, where he often comes over as worried, personally he can be highly engaging and able easily to dominate a dinner table of the chattering classes, of which he is conspicuously a member.

The "Red" tag was probably inevitable, given there have been, unsurprisingly, few people with the name Adair in public life. But it is largely inappropriate (not least because his actual first name is Jonathan). At Cambridge, where he secured a double first in history and economics, he was president of the union and president of the university Conservative club — a decade earlier the forcing house for Tories such as Michael Howard, Leon Brittain, Norman Lamont and Kenneth Clarke.

In 1981 like many others, he jumped ship from one of the main political parties, and joined the Social Democratic Party — although he was a tough Owenite, rather than a soggy liberal. Since the SDP imploded, he has been a member of no party, and sees himself now as a classic 19th-century Liberal — a believer in free markets and free trade, but equality of opportunity too.

Turner makes clear the CBI's support for a number of Conservative policies, such as their opposition to the European social chapter and to a minimum wage. He details the CBI's opposition to some key Labour policy initiatives, such as its proposals to reform competition policy, which the CBI describes as "draconian".

But like other representative and lobbying bodies, the CBI needs to align itself with power. If the choice is between power and politics, then however uncomfortable the decision — it has been particularly so for the CBI's chairman, the Conservative-supporting Sir Colin Marshall, though he has played a scrupulously non-political bat in doing the job — the business outcome is always likely to favour power. The CBI's conference will do no more than reflect that reality.

With Labour aiming openly for a minimum of two terms in office, relations with Labour are what really counts. Turner says: "At the moment it's more important for us to talk to them than the opposition. That is a fact of life." Especially over a key issue like EMU, that's tough for the Tories to take.

Turner addresses issues like EMU in a way that is both detailed and detached, working through them intellectually and pragmatically, in classic McKinsey's fashion. Less job mobile than Howard Davies — now on his second job since leaving the CBI, and who will address CBI leaders at a breakfast in Birmingham this morning — Turner spent 13 years with McKinsey's, working on a range of issues, including eastern Europe.

He moved there after working for BP and Chase Manhatten bank. While there he lost his original ambition to move into politics direct, unlike other alumni such as Hague, Asda's (and now the Conservative party's) Archie Norman and former No 10 policy head Norman Blackwell.

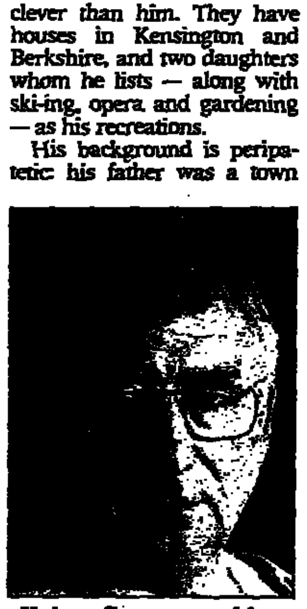
Turner rose to become a partner at McKinsey's — a job his wife Orna still does. Friends see her as even more clever than him. They have houses in Kensington and Berkshire, and two daughters whom he lists — along with ski-ing, opera and gardening — as his recreations.

His background is peripatetic: his father was a town planner, and as a result Turner spent much of his boyhood in various "new" towns, as they were then. That might have prepared him for the brutal architecture of the CBI's Centre Point headquarters — a long-running financial nightmare for the CBI, having taken on huge amounts of now unnecessary and costly space when it moved there in 1979, an issue which Turner is now addressing. His deal to buy out the majority of the lease is risky — it places the CBI's finances into the red and is being funded by advance subscription payments from 70 big member firms — but he is finally dealing with a problem which all his predecessors have failed to address.

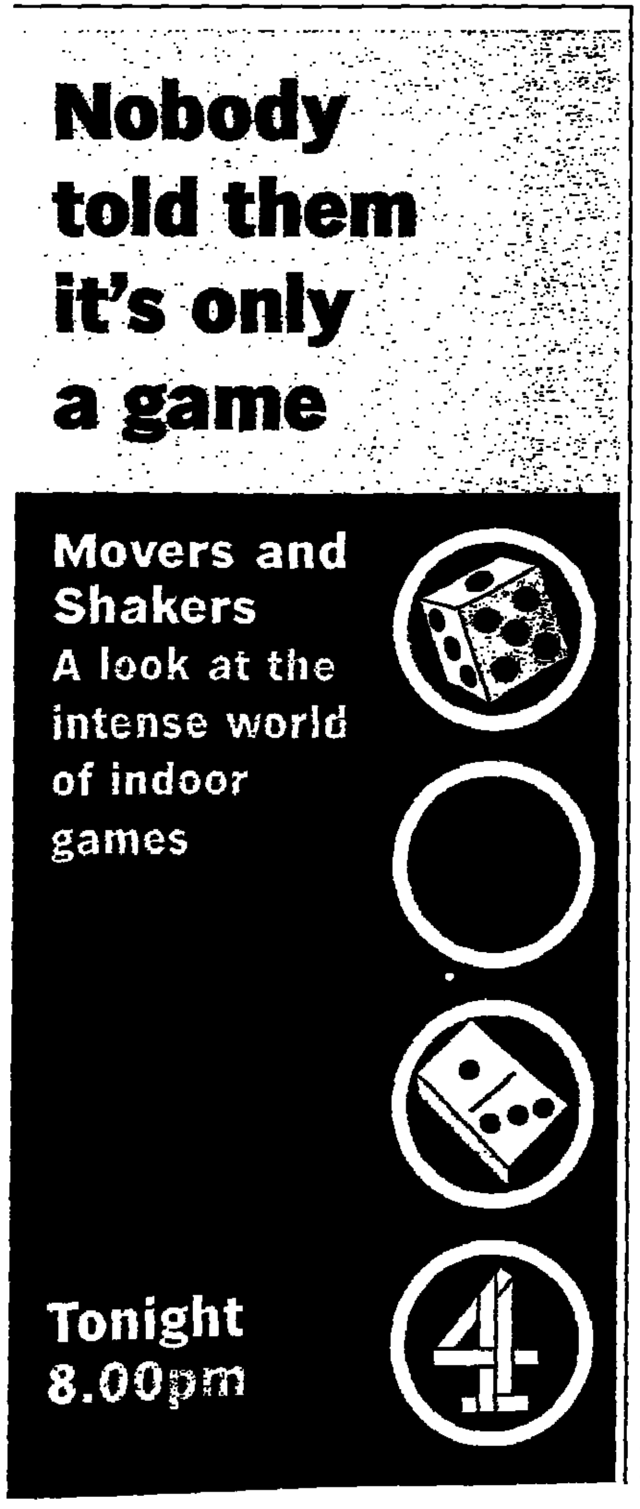
Business leaders are all over the new Labour Government — serving on taskforces, heading reviews, becoming civil servants. However, Turner denies that the CBI and business are now too close. But over EMU, the CBI is unquestionably in line with Labour, though not completely. The CBI disagrees with Labour's timing, insisting that Britain may well be ready to take part in monetary union in 2001-2002, rather than at some point after the next election, as the Government is saying.

Given Mr Hague's EMU policy, that means the CBI and the Conservatives are seeing their biggest ever difference, or as Turner puts it, with perhaps a little too much understatement: "We are in disagreement." Given that the Tories are traditionally the party to which business has given its support, that's unquestionably hard for some Conservatives and some business leaders to take.

The result is heat — heat from Hague, heat from some CBI members such as the Dixons chairman Sir Stanley Kalms, who is translating his own fierce opposition to EMU to an attack on the CBI's representativeness on the issue, and on the pro-European "coterie" around Turner. Fighting real fires was the job of Turner's namesake: fighting the political and business fires being fanned by the EMU debate is also warm work.



Kalms: fierce opposition



Nobody told them it's only a game

Movers and Shakers
A look at the intense world of indoor games

Tonight 8.00pm

BUSINESS LETTERS

Reticence from water company should be no surprise

From Mr Roland Rench

Sir, Your City Editor should not be surprised ("Odds against Joe Public", October 29) that Thames Water is unwilling to provide her with information that could reflect adversely on its performance.

At a number of its annual meetings, chairmen and members of the board have proclaimed, "We have nothing to hide". But when put to the test, questions are met with irrelevant waffle and red herrings or with the catch-all reply, "Sorry, the information is commercially confidential". Cynical disingenuity reigns supreme.

However, such reticence does not prevent Thames Water from spending tens of thousands of pounds inserting full-page repeat advertisements in the national broadsheet newspapers, telling the population it is carrying out what its directors and executives are paid very handsomely to do. No local authority would be allowed to get away with what amounts to abuse of public funds.

When calculating future price ceilings, Ofwat, the regulator, should ignore such, and much other, needless expenditure as constituting legitimate essential costs.

Yours faithfully,
ROLAND RENCH,
8 Minshull Place,
Park Road,
Beckenham, Kent.

Using energy wisely

From Mr Anthony G. Phillips

Sir, Just a few days ago President Clinton was being berated for seemingly reneging on America's commitment to reduce global warming. Are we not also guilty?

We now learn ("Utilities agree on joint £200m gas-fired plant", October 28) that electricity companies are to build two gas-fired power stations and we also learn that a rail company is to introduce much faster trains on the West Coast main line. Natural gas, transported by pipeline, or compressed and used in lorries, is ideal for home heating and for reducing local pollution and global warming. Each time energy is converted to another form, there are inevitably losses, often considerable.

Each successive minute shaved off a journey is achieved only by a disproportionate increase in energy required and, therefore, pollution. Time savings to travellers are not necessarily beneficial, but will depend on what use an individual makes of those savings.

Directing attention to improved utilisation of electricity and to making railways more attractive to freight might not be as glamorous as new power stations and new passenger trains, but the environment would benefit both from reduced emissions and (admittedly slight) reductions in road congestion.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY G. PHILLIPS,
32 Upper Street,
Salisbury, Wiltshire.

TELEVISION CHOICE

Backgammon to the fore

Movers and Shakers
Channel 4, 8.00pm

This six-part series introduces us to people who like to spend their spare hours moving counters and shaking dice. We are in the world of indoor games, which are apparently more popular than outdoor sports, and the first to feature is backgammon. Those of us who have never tried it may struggle to see the fascination of what looks like a fairly tedious board game, but the film does its best to persuade us otherwise. Its central character is Mark, a cocky 17-year-old who is exceptionally good at backgammon but lets everybody know it. The appeal is not just in winning, but in betting on the outcome. Uninterested in school, Mark has abandoned his A levels and announces that he intends to make gambling his profession. He is lucky in having a wealthy father to bail him out if things go wrong.

Spark
BBC1, 8.30pm

You cannot blame Roy Clarke for recycling the theme of his greatest hit. Like *Last of the Summer Wine*, his new comedy centres on bossy women and ineffectual men. There is one ineffectual man in particular, a computer nerd called Ashley (James Fleet). All his life he has been under the thumb of a domineering mother, which helps to explain why he is in his forties and unattached. But, as the series opens, mum pops her clogs and this leaves the dithering Ashley free to find himself a wife. But the running joke of the series, which from the early evidence is a shade bland and predictable, is that Ashley is destined to remain single. His long-standing girlfriend is dull, plain and stolidly unromantic and while a succession of beautiful women cross Ashley's path, he is too socially gauche to take advantage.

Officers and Gentleman
BBC2, 8.30pm

The eve of Remembrance Day is the occasion for a timely look at the Chelsea Pensioners, veterans of battle now reunited in old age. The Royal Hospital, founded by Charles II, is the grand residence of these old soldiers whose red coats and three-cornered hats often make them look like something devised by the British Tourist Authority. But get them talking about their wars and they present a very different picture. It takes a very old man to remember the First World War but Francis Sumpter (born in 1897) can and his recall is total. The Western Front emerges as every bit as dreadful as its reputation: there is no revisionism here. Most of the memories, however, are of the Second World War and present the ordinary soldier's often sardonic corrective to the triumphalist commentaries of the newsreels.

Jan Francis, James Fleet (BBC1, 8.30pm)

Equinox: Losing It
Channel 4, 9.00pm

One of the puzzles for the spectator is why sportspeople can mix brilliant performances with utter failure. In 1990 Steve Backley, the javelin thrower, smashed three world records. A year later he failed to qualify for the world championships. The footballer Lee Chapman was a flop at Arsenal but the league's top goalscorer at Leeds United. The conundrum has attracted the attention of sports psychologists and their findings form the core of the film. The proposition is that the difference between winning and losing is all in the mind. Some sportspeople crack under pressure, others manage to shut it out. The key is total mental control. Go into your event in a state of inner calm and shut everything else out. Sally Gunnell and Greg Rusedski are among those providing the evidence. **Peter Waymark**

RADIO CHOICE

The Club That Matt Built
Radio 5 Live, 7.30pm

This is the second of three programmes about great football managers, and it arrives at a time when Manchester United are making most of their rivals in England and in Europe look like entrants in a competition to come second. Matt Busby built not one but three United teams that distinguished themselves, the best two being the so-called Busby Babes of the middle 1950s, a team cruelly destroyed in the Munich air disaster of 1958, and the team that, complete with Law, Best and Charlton, won the European Cup a decade later. Archie McPherson is the presenter for what is a friendly but vigorous portrait of a man who seemed, on the couple of occasions I met him, to be just that: friendly but vigorous.

The Monday Play: Search and Destroy
Radio 4, 7.45pm

This is an absorbing drama which has an ultra-modern context for age-old conflicts to do with life, death and betrayal. Joe Tucker plays Robert Stone, a computer software engineer who is forced to lift his eyes from the blinking screen of new technology when he is sent to a war-riven African country to fix the government's weapons system. The intensely unworldly Stone finds himself on a roller-coaster ride, wined and dined by the autocratic ruler and seduced by his women. He becomes caught up in the conflict and faces the kind of human dilemmas that have been a stranger to him at home. Adjoa Andoh plays the seductive Layinka and Okon Jones appears as the army general who runs the country. **Peter Barnard**

RADIO 1

6.30am Kevin Greening and Zoë Ball **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Jo Whiley. Includes **12.30pm** Newsbeat **2.00** Mark Radcliffe **4.00** Dave Pearce **5.15** Newsbeat **5.30** Evening Session **8.30** Live Music Update with Briggy Smale **8.40** Andy Kershaw **10.30** The MOBO Awards. Lisa I'Anson and Trevor Nelson report from this year's Music of Black Origin Awards, live from the Connaught Rooms **1.00am** Clive Warren **4.00** Chris Moyles

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** David Aaronovitch **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** Humphrey Lyttelton **8.00** Malcolm Laycock with Big Band Era and Dance Band Days **9.00** Big Band Special **9.30** Hayes Over Britain **10.30** Richard Allinson **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am The Breakfast Programme **9.00** Nicky Campbell **12.00** Midday with Mair **2.00pm** Ruscoe on Five **4.00** Nationwide with Julian Worricker **7.00** News Extra **7.30** The Club That Matt Built. See Choice **8.00** The Monday Match. Leicester City v Wimbledon **10.00** News Talk **11.00** News Extra **12.00** After Hours **2.00am** Up All Night **5.00** Morning Reports

VIRGIN RADIO

5.00am Jeremy Clark **7.00** Chris Evans **10.00** (FM) Robin Banks (AM) Graham Dene **1.00pm** (FM) Nick Abbot (MW) Nicky Horne **4.00** Russ 'n' Jono **7.00** (FM) Paul Coyte (AM) Catrin Jones **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Richard Porter

TALK RADIO

6.30am Paul Ross and Carol McGiffen **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Lorraine Kelly **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Peter Deeley **7.00** Anna Raeburn **9.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

6.00am Newsday **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** News **7.15** Off the Shelf: The Colour of Blood **7.30** The Vintage Chart Show **8.00** News **8.10** Pause for Thought **8.15** Pop on the Line **9.00** News; News in German (648 only) **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Major Killers **9.30** Westway Access **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** Omnibus **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** Jazzamatazz **12.00** News **12.05pm** World Business Report **12.15** Britain Today **12.30** Seven Days **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Frankenstein **3.00** World News; (648 only) News in German **3.05** Sports Roundup **3.15** Westway Access **3.30** The Ed Stewart Show **4.00** News **4.15** Seven Days **4.30** The World Today; (648 only) News in German **4.45** Britain Today **5.00** Europe Today **5.30** World Business Report **5.45** Sports Roundup **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Cross Questioned; News in German (648 only) **7.00** News **7.01** Outlook **7.25** Pause for Thought **7.30** Multitrack Hit List **8.00** Newshour **9.00** News **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** Britain Today **9.30** Heritage **10.00** Newsdesk **10.30** The World Today **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News **11.05** Outlook **11.30** Multitrack Hit List **12.00** Newsdesk **12.30am** Westway **12.45** Britain Today **1.00** Newsdesk **1.30** Seven Days **1.45** Poems by Post **2.00** Newsday **2.30** On Screen **3.00** News **3.05** World Business Report **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** What Do Christians Believe? **4.00** Newsdesk **4.30** Europe Today **5.00** Newsday **5.30** Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Alan Mann with the Morning March and Breakfast Baroque **9.00** Henry Kelly. Includes The Classic Masterpiece and Hall of Fame Hour. Plus Michael Barry provides a recipe for Provençale lamb casserole **1.00pm** Listener Request Hour. Introduced by Jane Jones **2.00** Concerto. Chopin (Piano Concerto No 1 in E minor) **3.00** Jamie Crick **7.00** Newsnight with John Brunning **7.30** Sonata. Corelli (Violin Sonata No 3 in C) **8.00** Evening Concert. Richard Baker presents outstanding recordings from the winners of this year's Gramophone Awards which were presented in October **10.00** Michael Mappin. Includes at **11.35** Nocturne **2.00am** Concerto (r) **3.00** Mark Griffiths

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Includes Telemann (Quartet in D minor for two flutes, bassoon and continuo); Beethoven (Symphony No 8 in F); Paganini, arr Kreisler (I Palpiti); Mussorgsky, arr Rimsky-Korsakov (A Night on the Bare Mountain); Massenet (Il Est Doux, Il est Bon, Hérodiade); Purcell (The Fairy Queen, Act 4, excerpts)
9.00 Morning Collection. Introduced by Peter Hobday. Saint-Saëns (Danse Macabre); Chopin (Four Mazurkas); Mozart (Duo in B flat); Chopin (Three Mazurkas); Tchaikovsky (Waltz, Polonaise, Eugene Onegin)
10.00 Musical Encounters, with Chris Wines. Monteverdi (Sonata Sopra Santa Maria; Ave Maris Stella, Vespers); Biber (Violin Sonata No 2); Beethoven (Symphony No 1 in C); Handel (Suite in E minor); Bach (Cantata No 211); Telemann (Fantasia No 5 in A); Mozart (Piano Sonata in D)
12.00 Composer of the Week: Gyorgy Ligeti
1.00pm News: The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. Live from St John's, Smith Square, London. Endellion Quartet, Juanita Lascarro, soprano. Webern (Slow Movement, 1905; Five Movements); Schoenberg (String Quartet No 2)
2.00 The BBC Orchestras. BBC National Orchestra of Wales under George Hurst and Nicholas Kraemer, with Paul Watkins, cello. Mozart (Overture Cosi Fan Tutte; Symphony No 36 in C, Linz); Elgar (Cello Concerto in E minor); Brahms (Symphony No 1 in C minor)
4.00 Music Matters, with Ivan Hewett (r)
4.45 Music Machine. How often do you really listen to music? Tommy Pearson explores musical routes straight from the ear to the heart and mind
5.00 In Tune, with Sean Rafferty and guests the American early music group, Anonymous 4
7.30 Performance on 3: Clocks and Clouds. Continuing the Philharmonia's long-term series devoted to the music of Gyorgy Ligeti. Mitsuko Uchida, piano. Philharmonia under Esa-Pekka Salonen. Ligeti (Lontano); Bartok (Piano Concerto No 1); Ligeti (Apparitions); Scriabin (Poem of Ecstasy)
9.00 Postscript: Friends Who Disagree. The first of five religious dialogues between representatives of the great world faiths, with Keith Ward, Regius Professor of Divinity at Oxford, in the chair. With the Chief Rabbi, Dr Jonathan Sacks, and Dr Zaki Badawi, Chairman of the Imams and Mosques of the United Kingdom
9.20 A Breton Organ. Timothy Roberts plays the organ at Ploujean, France, built by the Englishman Thomas Dallam. His recital includes music by composers such as Gibbons and Tomkins
10.00 Voices. Iain Burnside talks to the American soprano Barbara Bonney about her career
10.45 Mixing It. Mark Russell and Robert Sandall present a studio session from two electric guitarists — avant-garde music from Elliott Sharp and jazz/funk-fusion from Jean-Paul Bourelly
11.30 Composer of the Week: Vaughan Williams (r)
12.30am Jazz Notes, with Digby Fairweather
1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

RADIO 4

5.55am (LW) Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today **8.45** Women in the House. Shirley Williams looks at life in Westminster from a female perspective (3/5) **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week, with the *Times* columnist Melvyn Bragg and guests
10.00 (LW) Daily Service
10.00 (FM) News; With Great Pleasure. The writer and broadcaster Mavis Nicholson chooses some of her favourite pieces of poetry and prose. Readings by Siân Phillips and Philip Madoc
10.15 (LW) On This Day, with Geoffrey Wheeler
10.30 Woman's Hour. Jenni Murray talks to the actress Demi Moore about her new film *GI Jane*, directed by Ridley Scott
11.30 Money Box Live, with Vincent Duggleby
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Mark Whittaker
12.25pm Wildbrain. The third regional heat of the wildlife quiz, from the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust in Slimbridge **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Birdsong, by Sebastian Faulks. The final instalment of Nick Stafford's dramatisation (3/3)
3.00 The Afternoon Shift, with Laurie Taylor
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Lynne Walker sees a new production of *King Lear* at the Sheffield Crucible and reviews a new collection of writing about jazz
4.45 Short Story: A March in Time, by Brian Glanville, read by William Dufris
5.00 PM, with Clare English and Jeremy Harris **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue. The start of the 30th series of the antidote to panel games. With Paul Merton joining the regulars, Barry Cryer, Graeme Garden and Tim Brooke-Taylor. Humphrey Lyttelton is in the chair (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 The Food Programme. Simon Parkes finds out whether factory-prepared foods can compare with the home-cooked variety (r)
7.45 The Monday Play: Search and Destroy, by Mike Walker. See Choice (r)
9.00 When She Comes Back. The story of the writer Eva Tucker's escape from Berlin to England with her mother in 1939. With readers Lala Lloyd, Colleen Prendergast and Jane Whittenshaw (r)
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Clothes They Stood Up In. Written and read by Alan Bennett (1/7)
11.00 (FM) Comparing Notes with Brian Kay (r)
11.00 (LW) Education Matters, with David Walter
11.30 (FM) The Female Ghost: The Cold Embrace, by Mary Braddon; dramatised by Christopher Hawes. The first of three ghostly tales (r)
11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament
12.00 News 12.30am The Late Book: Funny Boy, by Shyam Selvadurai, read by Gary Pillai (6/10) (r)
12.48 Shipping Forecast
1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO.** MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.

Innocence lost in garden of earthy delights

In a perfect world, Charlie Dimmock would be playing Moll Flanders. Or, failing that, one of the wenches from *Tom Jones*. But instead, Charlie (house style insists I call her Dimmock second time around, but I cannot) finds *herself* co-starring with Alan Titchmarsh and a builder called Tommy. 'Tis pity, you see, that Charlie is a horticulturist.

She is also the main reason for watching **Ground Force** (BBC2, Friday), the series that has done for gardening what *Ready Steady Cook* and *Changing Rooms* did for cookery and DIY.

Golden red hair that falls in ringlets to ... where that sort of *hair should fall* to. Curves that would have Botticelli reaching for his flesh tones. Don't try to tell me that it's Titchmarsh's magnetic personality that has been bringing in five million viewers a week. It's Charlie and her surprisingly small selection of T-shirts — washed-out green on day one, a slightly smarter blue one to mark the completed transformation on day two. Corsets don't get a look in, which some would say was a pity.

But her appeal and her importance to the programme is based on more than looks. Charlie is a mucker-in, a game girl. If heavy paving stones need lifting, it's burly Tommy who eases them up with his pickaxe and Charlie who carries them away. As for Titchmarsh, he just stands around telling everybody else what to do and talking about concrete "going off" when most of us would say "setting". Loves his DIY jargon, does Alan.

He's also quite keen on Charlie, as has become increasingly apparent as the series has gone on. On Friday, its run finished with the team on the Isle of Wight building a concrete racetrack for a disabled boy to race radio-controlled cars on. A series of bends mapped out on the lawn was instantly christened Dimmock's Curves. "I'd better make the curves bigger then," joked Titchmarsh, with saloon-bar subtlety. Charlie said she didn't know whether to be flattered or not, and you could see why. What was once charming and unspoken (well, I like to think so) was all becoming just a little base. I wonder if innocence can be regained in time for series two.

REVIEW

Matthew Bond

A little less innocence might not go amiss in episode two of **Tom Jones** (BBC1), because after 90 minutes of last night's feature-length opening instalment, there had been precious little in the way of serious romping. And that despite Metin Huseyin, the director, getting Tom from foundling babe to adulthood in an impressive 28 minutes.

The first of those 28 minutes was probably the most alarming. A caption flashed up the word Somersetshire. I let out an olde-worlde groane. The camera panned round and found a man in a big wig. I groaned again. But it was when the man *in the* wig spoke directly to camera that the groan became a shriek. Eek — a narrator. One thing for Henry Fielding to have one, quite another for a modern television adaptation.

But as it turned out, John Sessions as Fielding turned out to be rather a good thing. It was his intent, he told us, "to digress through this whole history as often as I see occasion, of which I am a better judge than any pitiful critic." Strong words, but not ones this pitiful critic would argue with. He turned up with distracting frequency in the first half-hour, presumably to stop us wondering why baby Tom was found on Squire Allworthy's bed, not on his doorstep like any proper foundling. But once the Tom (Max Beesley) and Sophia (Samantha Morton) story was up and running, he did what any narrator should do. He disappeared.

By this time you either loved the Hogarthian performances that were going on all over the place, or hated them so much that you had turned over to watch *London's Burning*. There was virtue in both points of view, but I inclined to the enthusiastic. I must have been to have enjoyed Brian Blessed's Squire Western so much — a performance that ranged from the pantomime bucolic to the frighteningly unhinged.

"I hate and despise him," wailed his hitherto beloved daughter, Sophia, who had gone to Bath to learn some manners, come back with a bosom but still wouldn't marry the ghastly Blifil (James D'Arcy). "Then die then," said her deeply caring father. Yup, I'm definitely enjoying it.

I also enjoyed **An Unsuitable Job for a Woman** (ITV, Friday), which survived a wobbly second episode and an improbable escape from a well in the third to reach what turned out to be a succession of conclusions. First, Ian McDiarmid did it (wouldn't it be nice if one day Ian McDiarmid didn't do it?), then Phyllis Logan did it, then Helen Baxendale covered it all up, then the police discovered what she had done ... on and on it went. But despite all that, the important question was never when would it end, but when would it be back?

Last night saw a less satisfying but eminently forgivable conclusion to **Full Circle with Michael Palin** (BBC1). Bad weather prevented Palin from returning to his starting-point, Little Diomede in the Bering Strait, depriving him (and indeed us) of the satisfaction of completing his 50,000-mile circumperambulation of the Pacific by "a gnat's".

But long before that, there was a definite end-of-journey feel to this last instalment. Having made it back to civilisation (well, California and Vancouver, anyway) after the wilds of South America, Palin simply didn't have the energy to return to the wilds of Canada and Alaska again. His body went, but his heart and mind were already on the way home. Who can blame him. And who won't miss him?

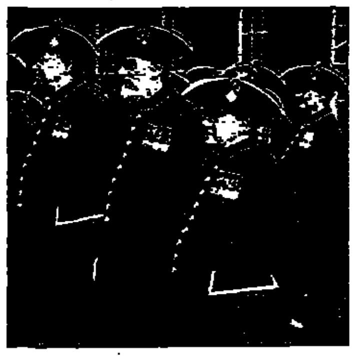
BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (17671)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (12039)
9.00 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (5700010)
9.25 Style Challenge (5892045)
9.50 Kilroy (T) (4279377)
10.30 Change That from Blackheath, London (8531279)
10.55 The Really Useful Show (T) (7014749)
11.35 Real Rooms Reproducing a medieval banqueting hall in a Birmingham dining-room (9433410)
12.00 News (T); regional news and weather (6497381)
12.05pm Call My Bluff (3414279)
12.35 Give Us A Clue (2423478)
1.00 News (T) and weather (15126)
1.30 Regional News (T) (84600590)
1.40 The Weather Show (59095855)
1.45 Neighbours (T) (44540923)
2.05 Quincy (2117768)
2.55 Terry and June (r) (7290861)
3.30 Playdays (r) (8368213) **3.50** Enchanted Lands (1387300) **4.00** Roald Dahl's Revolting Recipes: crispy wasp stings from *James and the Giant Peach* (9147010) **4.15** Noah's Island (T) (5012382) **4.40** Goosebumps (1/2) (T) (6487497) **5.00** Newsround (T) (5625836) **5.10** Blue Peter (T) (9576836)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (388805)
6.00 News (T) and weather (107)
6.30 Regional News Magazine (687)
7.00 This Is Your Life (T) (8774)
7.30 Here and Now Report on the falling number of nuns in Britain (T) (671)
8.00 EastEnders The first of five nightly episodes. Ian travels to Italy in his quest to find wandering wife Cindy and his sons (T) (1294)
8.30 **Spark** New comedy about a lifelong bachelor. With James Fleet and Jan Francis (T) (3229)
9.00 News (T) and weather (9861)
9.30 **Hotel** A large conference causes problems for the staff at the Adelphi (T) (68687)
10.00 Panorama: The British Disease Mad cow disease and the current safety of blood transfusions (T) (330565)
10.40 On Side John Inverdale talks snooker with Jimmy White and Ronnie O'Sullivan. David Gower reports from the England cricket team's camp in Lanzarote and Geoffrey Boycott comments from the studio (T) (132010)
11.30 Film '97 with Barry Norman Reviews of *GI Jane*, with Demi Moore, *Welcome to Sarajevo* with Woody Harrelson and Stephen Dillane, and the low-budget hit *Chasing Amy*. Plus, Glenn Close, Pauline Collins and Bruce Beresford's latest project, *Paradise Road* (T) (61861)
12.00 Neon Empire (1991) with Martin Landau, Gary Busey and Linda Fiorentino. Mob boss Ray Sharkey fulfils his dream of opening a casino in 1940s Las Vegas, but faces violent opposition from a rival gangster. Directed by Larry Peerce (T) (122817)
FILM
1.50am Weather (9513430)
1.55 Join BBC News 24 (8695430)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ (™), Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

BBC2

6.00am Education: The Golden Thread (38652) **6.30** Deaf-Blind Education in Russia (83039)
7.00am See Hear Breakfast News (T) (8236377)
7.15 Teletubbies (r) (4171720) **7.40** Smurfs' Adventures (r) (2528861) **8.05** Blue Peter (r) (T) (2115958) **8.30** Melvin and Maureen's Music-a-Grams (r) (2065565) **8.45** Harry and the Hendersons (r) (T) (9738039)
9.10 Spanish Globo (1257590) **9.15** Clementine (1092818) **9.30** Writing and Pictures (T) (4620213) **9.45** Storytime (4625768) **10.00** Teletubbies (70519) **10.30** Words and Pictures (2660887) **10.45** Cats' Eyes (1115792) **11.00** Look and Read: Spywatch (1827316) **11.20** Zig Zag (T) (3528478) **11.40** Landmarks (T) (3967887) **12.00** Modern Studies (8067687) **12.20pm** Showcase (6588687) **12.25** Firework Safety (6587958)
12.30 Working Lunch (73565)
1.00 The Greedysaurus Gang (r) (53976410) **1.05** Hairy Jeremy (97332021) **1.10** The Art and Antiques Hour (6568652) **2.10** Going, Going, Gone (62701403) **2.40** News (T) (3570652) **2.45** Clash of the Titans: The controversial British Lions tour of South Africa in 1974 (r) (T) (7237381) **3.25** News (T) (8255958) **3.30** The Village (r) (565) **3.58** Fit for a Queen (8395652)
4.00 Ready, Steady, Cook (300) **4.30** Through the Keyhole (r) (1983584) **4.55** Esther: Coming to parenthood later in life (9730039) **5.30** Today's the Day (836)
6.00 The Simpsons Marge and Homer take a break in a last-ditch attempt to save their marriage (T) (148132)
6.25 Battlestar Galactica (r) (T) (927738)
7.10 The Car's the Star The history of the MGB (T) (446126)
7.30 Making Masterpieces How oil painting techniques have been used to convey emotion about the subject to the viewer (T) (213)
8.00 Trust Me, I'm a Doctor Dr Phil Hammond investigates chronic fatigue syndrome, and a report on the hips used in replacement operations (T) (9836)



Chelsea Pensioners parade (8.30pm)

8.30 **Officers and Gentlemen** Insight into the lives of the Chelsea Pensioners (T) (96687)
9.30 Never Mind the Buzzcocks (r) (T) (r) (T) (66229)
10.00 I'm Alan Partridge (T) (47652)
10.30 Newsnight (T) (390107) **11.15** Oldie TV (625565) **11.55** Weather (171584) **12.00** The Midnight Hour (60527)
12.30am BBC Learning Zone: The Making of Ann Summers 12.45 World Painters **2.00** Religious Education **4.00** World Spanish **5.00** Business and Training **6.00** Religion and Society in Victorian Bristol **6.30** Cine Cinephiles (47188)

HTV

6.00am GMTV (4272300)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep (T) (5705565)
9.55 Regional News (T) (6222294)
10.00 The Time, the Place (67045)
10.30 This Morning (T) (48508039)
12.20pm Regional News (6493565)
12.30 News (T) and weather (2515403)
12.55 High Road (T) (2427294) **1.25** Home and Away (T) (17298297)
1.50 The Sandwich Man (1966) with Michael Bentine, Dora Bryan and Suzy Kendall. Engaging semi-silent comedy charting a day in the life of a sandwich-board man and a pigeon-fancier. Directed by Robert Hartford-Davis (8870519)
FILM
3.20 News (T) (8170213)
3.25 Regional News (T) (8179584)
3.30 Tots TV (3167132) **3.40** The Slow Norris (1383584) **3.50** Wolves, Witches and Giants (3065720) **4.05** Sooty and Co (8363854) **4.25** Men in Black (1317774) **4.50** How 2 (6478749)
5.10 WALES: The House Following the transformation of a derelict Victorian house (r) (T) (9101687)
5.10 We Are Seven Drama about the trials and tribulations of village life in the 1930s (9101687)
5.40 News and weather (391861)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (142958)
6.25 Regional Weather (955039)
6.30 Regional News (T) (855)
6.56 HTV Crimestoppers (900749)
7.00 Talking Telephone Numbers (3382)
7.30 Coronation Street Fred makes Maud an offer she can't refuse. The truth about Jim shocks Liz (T) (869)
8.00 World in Action Focusing on public concern over the potential threat posed by convicted paedophiles in communities around Britain (T) (2590)
8.30 Michael Barrymore's Strike it Rich (T) (5497)

Cathy Tyson as Carol (9.00pm)

9.00 Gold: The Catch Carol summons up more trouble than she bargained for when she asks her brother Paul to sort Vinnie out (T) (8671)
10.00 News at Ten (T) and weather (41478)
10.40 Nash Bridges: Promised Land An illegal immigrant brings Nash and Joe to the aid of a young man searching for his parents (T) (872126)
11.40 Highlander (724300)
12.40 Football Extra (T) (5694633)
1.40 War of the Worlds (r) (8899633)
2.35 Rockmania (r) (2300904)
3.30 God's Gift (r) (3267782)
4.25 Phenomena (40783091)
4.35 World in Action (r) (T) (93806140)
5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (98985)
5.30 News (58782)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (2427294)
1.50 Blue Heelers (5569720)
2.50-3.20 High Road (8868855)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9101687)
6.25-7.00 Central News (337855)
11.40 Charlie Grace (724300)
1.40am Late and Loud (8899633)
2.35 Curtis Calls (6671324)
2.40 Film: A Place of One's Own (529685)
4.15 Central Jobfinder '97 (1507817)
4.50 Eastern Mix (93818985)
5.20 Asian Eye (9470508)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.20pm-12.30 Illuminations (6493565)
12.55 Home and Away (2427294)
1.25 High Road (79520126)
1.55 Murder, She Wrote (5684039)
2.50-3.20 Gardener's Diary (8868855)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9101687)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (78010)
10.30 Westcountry News (878045)
10.45 Nash Bridges (954774)
11.40 New York News (724300)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 Shortland Street (2427294)
1.50 Countdown to Christmas (5177590)
2.25-3.20 Blue Heelers (2106652)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9101687)
6.00 Meridian Tonight (403)
6.30-7.00 Perfectly Pets (855)
10.30 Meridian News and Weather (878045)
10.45 Nash Bridges (954774)
11.40 The Golf Show (119584)
12.10am Meridian Motorsport (1215695)
5.00 Freescreen (98985)

ANGLIA

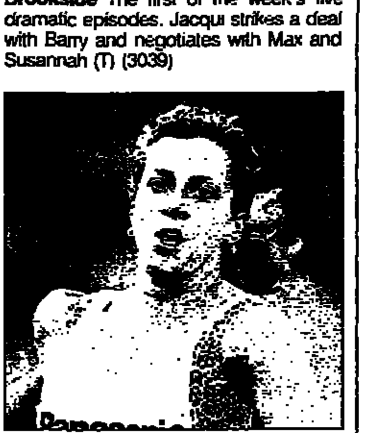
As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 What's My Line (2427294)
1.50 Homemaker (5177590)
2.25-3.20 Blue Heelers (2106652)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9101687)
6.23 Anglia Weather (956768)
6.25-7.00 Anglia News (337855)
10.29 Anglia Air Watch (104039)
10.30 Anglia News and Weather (878045)
10.45 Is That It? (728855)
11.15 Nash Bridges (136010)
12.15am Fair Cops (5370091)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (27279) **9.00 Ysgolion** (800316) **11.30 The Pulse** (7836) **12.00 Right to Reply** (44519) **12.30pm Montel Williams** (64861) **1.00 Slot Meithrin** (12546966) **1.15 Miffi** (19414251) **1.30 The Crimean War** (79478) **2.30 Wild Tales from National Geographic** (64300) **3.30 Collector's Lot** (861) **4.00 Fifteen-to-One** (768) **4.30 Coltrane's Planes and Automobiles** (652) **5.00 5 Pump** (8142229) **5.15 Ffeil** (5620381) **5.30 Countdown** (132) **6.00 Newyddion** (508590) **6.10 Heno** (895294) **7.00 Pobol y Cwm** (167107) **7.25 Y Byd Ar Bedwar** (521132) **8.00 Rhyw Fath O Fusnas** (4872) **8.30 Newyddion** (3039) **9.00 Cutting Edge** (6213) **10.00 Brookside** (606010) **10.35 Sgorio** (871497) **11.35 The American Football Big Match** (903045) **12.50am-1.50 Arthouse** (5684256)

CHANNEL 4

7.00am The Big Breakfast (27279)
9.00 Schools The English Programme (T) (5793720) **9.25** Schools at Work (1174213) **9.30** Geography Junction (T) (4615381) **9.45** Book Box (T) (4610836) **10.00** Stage Two Science (T) (4915251) **10.15** Rat-a-Tat-Tat (2311872) **10.30** Place and People (T) (2532381) **10.50** Stop, Look, Listen (T) (8857045) **11.00** Living and Growing (3615958) **11.15** The Mix (T) (3525381)
11.30 The Pulse (r) (T) (7836)
12.00 Sesame Street (44519)
12.30pm Light Lunch The guests are *Blue Peter* veterans Valerie Singleton and John Noakes (78749) **1.30** Gardens Without Borders (r) (84511652) **1.45** Dolphins. Animation (59087836)
1.50 The Franchise Affair (1950, b/w). Mystery about a 15-year-old girl who accuses a mother and daughter of kidnapping her and forcing her to become their servant. Starring Dulcie Gray, Marjorie Fielding and Ann Stephens. Directed by Lawrence Huntingdon (T) (82264300)
FILM
3.30 Collector's Lot The programme comes *this week from Dalmeny House*, Edinburgh (T) (861) **4.00** Fifteen-to-One (T) (768) **4.30** Countdown (T) (1978652) **4.55** Montel Williams (T) (9725107) **5.30** Pet Rescue (T) (132)
6.00 Home Improvement American comedy. Tim is thrown in jail when he sells his tickets to an ice-hockey game (T) (395)
6.30 Hollyoaks Teen soap (T) (497)
7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (824126)
7.50 Golden Oldies The first of a two-week celebration of golden wedding anniversaries (859836)
8.00 Movers and Shakers: The Backgammon Boy The first in a six-part series exploring the world of indoor games. Beginning with 17-year-old Mark Telcher who has a passion and talent for backgammon (T) (4872)
8.30 Brookside The first of the week's five dramatic episodes. Jacqui strikes a deal with Barry and negotiates with Max and Susannah (T) (3039)



Sally Gunnell in action (9.00pm)

9.00 CHOICE **Equinox: Losing It** What goes on in the minds of top athletes when they are under stress. Sally Gunnell, Steve Backley and Greg Rusedski contribute (T) (6213)
10.00 NYPD Blue New York police drama series (970107)
10.55 Armstrong and Miller New comedy series starring Alexander Armstrong and Ben Miller (1/7) (T) (829294)
11.30 The American Football Big Match (904774) **12.45am** Trans World Sport (r) (462985) **1.45** Football Italia (r) (17958169) **4.00** Schools: Making Sense of Science (87430)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE
Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. **Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: 10.92075 GHz; sound:** ***7.02 and 7.20 MHz***

6.00am 5 News Early (2747381)
7.30 Milkshake (4400923) **7.35** Stickin' Around (r) (6974774) **8.00** Havakazoo (r) (6790279)
8.30 WideWorld Documentary series on human migration. A look at the Jamaican and Italian families who made their homes in Britain (2/10) (1645120)
9.00 Espresso Consumer affairs magazine (2799126) **10.00** Exclusive (r) (8896478) **10.30** Pole Stars (r) (T) (7245364)
11.00 Leeza Chat show (7517132) **11.50** Double Espresso (94791132) **12.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (3540756) **12.30pm** Family Affairs (r) (T) (8631565)
1.00 5 News Update (60199331) **1.05** Sunset Beach (T) (3420039) **2.00** 5's Company. Live entertainment (8498107)
3.30 Wuthering Heights (1970) with Timothy Dalton, Anna Calder-Marshall and Harry Andrews. Emily Brontë's classic novel about a tragic and torrid love affair. Directed by Robert Fuest (2758497)
FILM
5.30 Whittle (T) (3958687)
6.00 100 Per Cent (3875300)
6.30 Family Affairs Duncan faces up to the awful truth (T) (3866652)
7.00 Exclusive Showbiz news (5464126)
7.30 Song of the Seal: The Heavyweights A look at the northern elephant seal. Once on the point of extinction, it is now making a comeback (T) (3862836)

Presenter Annabel Giles (8.00pm)

8.00 Period Rooms Antiques-based interior design show. This week the contestants are given £750 to recreate an art nouveau bathroom (T) (5546774)
8.30 5 News (T) (5452381)
9.00 The Sweeney Vintage Flying Squad drama starring John Thaw and Dennis Waterman (9938774)
10.00 The Comedy Network Stand-up comedy presented by Boothby Graffoe, featuring Kevin Eldon, Ed Byrne and Julian Barratt (2190215)
10.30 Tibs and Fibs Lighthearted medical quiz (6895823)
11.00 The Jack Docherty Show Chat and comedy (4486381)
11.45 Prisoner: Cell Block H (8283300)
12.45am Live and Dangerous (43218512)
3.45 Asian Football Show (8675492)
4.35 The Streets of San Francisco: Merchants of Death (7517701)
5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (2770091)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● **For further listings see Saturday's *Vision***

SKY 1

6.00am Morning Glory (111749) **9.00** Regis and Kathie Lee (87942) **10.00** Another World (39720) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (59584) **12.00** Oprah Winfrey (59872) **1.00pm** Geraldo (18552) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (15652) **3.00** Jenny Jones (25478) **4.00** Oprah Winfrey (37213) **5.00** Star Trek: Voyager (2519) **6.00** The Live 6 Show (5381) **6.30** Married...with Children (2861) **7.00** The Simpsons (5120) **7.30** Real TV (8045) **8.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (57565) **9.00** Poltergeist: The Legacy (40229) **10.00** Sliders (43316) **11.00** Star Trek: Voyager (47749) **12.00** Late Show (32343) **1.00am** In the Heat of the Night (92898) **2.00** Long Play (5537053)

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1

6.00am Sky Riders (1976) (26232958) **7.45 The Naked Runner** (1967) (51504126) **9.30 The Guru** (1969) (12403) **11.30 Big Bully** (1996) (87608316) **1.15pm The Naked Runner** (1967) (152478) **3.15 Start the Revolution without Me** (1970) (25179126) **5.00 Agatha Christie's the Man in the Brown Suit** (1989) (72316) **7.00 Big Bully** (1996) (90132) **8.30 The Movie Show** (3671) **9.00 Twelve Monkeys** (1996) (2007068?) **11.15 Top Dog** (1994) (862045) **12.50am Moving Violations** (1985) (9957189) **2.20 Once Were Warriors** (1994) (229701) **4.05 The Guru** (1969) (714275)

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2

6.25am Smiley (1957) (11272590) **8.00 Transformers: The Movie** (1986) (46854) **10.00 Four Jills in a Jeep** (1944) (22865) **12.00 With Honours** (1994) (27497) **2.00pm Slattery's Hurricane** (1949) (52010) **4.00 Transformers: The Movie** (1986) (14875958) **5.55 Tad** (1995) (98348774) **7.30 El Feature: Red Corner** (8855) **8.00 Blessed Assurance** (1996) (57519) **10.00 Species** (1995) (354836) **11.50 Clockwork Mice** (1994) (821958) **1.30am Dirty Weekend** (1992) (488098) **3.15 The Heartbreak Kid** (1993) (336965) **4.55 Sherlock Holmes and the Baskerville Curse** (1983) (9597527)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm The Trail of the Lonesome Pine (1936) (1201213) **6.00 Smokey and the Bandit** (1977) (2785652) **8.00 La Bamba** (1987) (2797497) **10.00 Defenceless** (1991) (7949942) **11.45 The Seven-Ups** (1973) (4913942) **1.30am You Can't Take It with You** (1938) (39694053) **3.35 The Devil is a Woman** (1935) (74412922)

TNT

9.00pm The Cisco Kid (1994) (89549768) **11.00 The Prize** (1963) (22714836) **1.30am Nothing Lasts Forever** (1984) (74075140) **3.00 Travels with My Aunt** (1972) (31069459) **5.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Futbol Mundial (72403) **7.30** Beachcomber Soccer Sevens (35584) **8.30** Super Dragsters (96565) **9.00** Racing News (83045) **9.30** Aerobics (23107) **10.00** Spanish Primera Liga (38671) **12.00** Aerobics (90381) **12.30pm** Windsurfing (27923) **1.00** Football Special (26855) **2.30** Basketball: Birmingham v Worthing (31986) **4.30** World Sport Special (5590) **5.00** Beachcomber Soccer Sevens (4585) **6.00** Sports Centre (6905) **6.30** Football League Review (1107) **7.00** *Leicester City v Wimbledon* — Live (4167346) **10.30** Sports Centre (80958) **11.00** Watersports World (85923) **12.00** Sports Centre (31053) **12.30am** Football (14633) **2.30** Football League Review (45091) **3.00** Sports Centre (78256) **3.30** Close

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Aerobics (9553799) **7.30** Windsurfing (6719854) **8.00** Racing News (8176923) **8.30** World Sports Special (8175294) **9.00** Golf: Sarazen World Open (8137132) **1.00pm** Cricket: Australia v New Zealand (4531045) **3.00** Football League Review (3895890) **4.30** Watersports World (9541774) **5.30** Football League Review (9048861) **6.00** Windsurfing (9045774) **6.30** V-Max (8963126) **7.00** Sports Centre (2632855) **7.30** World Motor Sport (2379671) **10.30** Windsurfing (8269687) **11.00** Football League Review (7709774) **11.30** V-Max (4443836) **12.00** Cricket: Australia v New Zealand — Live (8943614) **2.00am** Sports Centre (3732427) **2.30** Cricket — Live (6299091)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00pm Beachcomber Soccer Sevens (82963497) **1.00** NFL American Football (29846331) **4.00** Sailing: 40'er European Finals (55125565) **4.30** Rugby League: Great Britain v Australia (34744010) **6.00** Super Dragsters (55135942) **6.30** Nike Terra Breakout (55126294) **7.00** Fish TV (89635519) **8.00** Cricket: Australia v New Zealand (89543855) **10.00** Big League Classics (15062720) **11.30** Close

EUROSPORT

7.30am Sailing (80478) **8.00** Motorcross (50497) **9.00** World Supercross Championship (54942) **11.00** Bobsleigh: World Cup (31855) **12.30pm** Parachuting (25519) **1.00** Triathlon: ITU World Cup (13774) **2.00** 1996 ATP World Championship Final (81590) **4.00** Motorsport (60565) **5.00** Tractor Pulling (5861) **6.00** Speedworld Magazine (82348) **8.00** Sumo (12805) **9.00** Truck Racing (99519) **10.00** Eurogoals (14010) **11.30** Boxing (71519) **12.30am** Close

UK GOLD

7.00am Worzel Gummidge (1891377) **7.35** Neighbours (8521590) **8.00** Crossroads (3230478) **8.25** EastEnders (1627855) **9.00** The Bill (8160942) **9.30** Howards' Way (9190300) **10.00** Bless This House (6595958) **10.30** The Sullivans (8166126) **11.00** Kinsey (4432132) **12.00** Crossroads (14011958) **12.25pm** Neighbours (14014045) **12.55** EastEnders (1293855) **1.30** Hi-De-Hi (3830590) **2.10** Open All Hours (7013942) **2.50** Are You Being Served? (2779565) **3.30** The Bill (7080478) **4.00** Casualty (78036923) **5.05** EastEnders (6852652) **5.40** Bob's Full House (7563774) **6.25** That's Showbusiness (6424478) **7.00** It Ain't Half Hot, Mum (4764671) **7.45** Rasto (5117710) **8.20** Open All Hours (1955942) **9.00** The Bill (1877107) **9.30** Middlemarch (89673478) **10.40** Yes, Minister (9704805) **11.20** The New Statesman (4621565) **11.55** Between the Lines (4633300) **12.55am** Spitting Image (2431362) **1.25** Miami Vice (2107140) **2.15** Shopping (87110430)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am The Box (7160774) **7.00** Coronation St (8418381) **7.30** Families (8500316) **8.00** Surprise Surprise (9515958) **9.00** Upstairs, Downstairs (3126923) **10.00** The Professionals (8426300) **11.00** Hart to Hart (8413836) **12.00** Coronation St (8983392) **12.30pm** *Families* (2028861) **1.00** Blind Date (2023316) **2.00** Upstairs, Downstairs (3589316) **3.00** Donahue (9782652) **4.00** The Professionals (9874687) **5.00** Hawaii Five-O (1772045) **6.00** Families (2816687) **6.30** Coronation St (2794039) **7.00** Blind Date (7305836) **8.00** Hart to Hart (7314584) **9.00** Coronation St (9790871) **9.30** The Comedians (2942497) **10.00** Hawaii Five-O (7304107) **11.00** Close

Paul Newman and Elke Sommer star in *The Prize* (TNT, 11.00pm)

CARLTON SELECT (cable)

5.00pm Gridlock (30851039) **5.30** Hey Dad II (55216861) **6.00** Blockbusters (55213774) **6.30** A Country Practice (55131126) **7.00** My Two Wives (30937403) **7.30** Pull the Other One (55120010) **8.00** Birds of a Feather (30840923) **8.30** London Bridge (30932958) **9.00** Pie in the Sky (89533107) **10.00** Soldier, Soldier (89536294) **11.00** St Elsewhere (84674316) **12.00** Pull the Other One (15073072) **12.30am** Tales of the Unexpected (34734633) **1.00** Close

DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00am Dumbo's Circus (49720) **6.30** Under the Umbrella Tree (77039) **7.00** Aladdin: The Series (96887) **7.30** Quack Pack (83132) **8.00** Dinosaurs (26774) **8.30** Bonkers (25045) **9.00** Gummi Bears (43497) *9.30 Grounding Marsh (1978584)* **9.55** Microscopic Milton (8495294) **10.00** Sesame Street (89316) **11.00** Winnie the Pooh (5722590) **11.15** Rosie and Jim (6728300) **11.35** Sing Me a Story with Belle (1909381) **12.00** Toto TV (6331039) **12.20pm** Disney Animated Shorts (8663213) **12.25** The Big Garage (6416774) **12.45** Winnie the Pooh (74059519) **1.00** Sesame Street (51958) **2.00** Madisons Adventures — Growing Up Wild (4720) **2.30** Gummi Bears (9768) **3.00** Tale Spin (3855) **3.30** Goof Troop (4213) **4.00** Timon and Pumbaa (3720) **4.30** Aladdin: The Series (5132) **5.00** Gargoyles (8300) **5.30** Dinosaurs (3584) **6.00** Blossom (8887) **6.30** Boy Meets World (1749) **7.00** Home Improvement (5836) **7.30** The Wonder Years (6861) **8.00 FILM: Angels** (1994) (85026855) **9.35** Dave's World (901465) **10.00** Close

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Delly **6.30** Billy the Cat **7.00** Pinocchio **7.30** Power Rangers Zeo **8.00** Big Bad Beetleborgs **8.30** Masked Rider **9.00** The Magic Box **9.30** Dudley the Dragon **10.00** Inspector Gadget **10.30** Samurai Pizza Cats **11.00** Sweet Valley High **12.00** Ace Ventura **12.30pm** Casper **1.00** The Tick **1.30** Iron Man **2.00** Fantastic Four **2.30** Power Rangers Zeo **3.00** Big Bad Beetleborgs **3.30** Masked Rider **4.00** Ace Ventura **4.30** Casper **5.00** The Tick **5.30** X Men **6.00** Spiderman **6.30** Sweet Valley High **7.00** Close

TCC

6.00am Happily Ever After **6.30** Bobby's World **7.00** Spirou **7.30** Dennis the Menace **8.00** Batman **8.30** Bots Master **9.00** Art Attack **9.30** Earthworm Jim **10.00** Gravedale High **10.30** Flash Gordon **11.00** Enogoud **11.30** Gigantor **12.00** Gravedale High **12.30pm** Bots Master **1.00** Batman **1.30** Eek **2.00** Spirou **2.30** Flash Gordon **3.00** Sonic **3.30** Earthworm Jim **4.00** Dennis the Menace **4.30** Art Attack **5.00** Close

CARTOON NETWORK

All your favourite cartoons broadcast from **5.00am** to **9.00pm**, seven days a week

NICKELODEON

6.00am Killer Tomatoes **6.30** Aaahh! Real Monsters **7.00** Hey Arnold! **7.30** Rugrats **8.00** Doug **8.30** Neverending Story **9.00** CBBC **10.00** Wimzie's House **10.30** Babar **11.00** Magic School Bus **11.30** Bananas in Pyjamas **12.00** The Wombles etc **12.30pm** Astro Farm etc **1.00** Dr Seuss **1.30** Little Bear Stories **2.00** Animal Show **2.30** CBBC **3.30** Rocko/Doug **4.00** Angry Beavers **4.30** Rugrats **5.00** Sister Sister **5.30** Kenan and Kel **6.00** Sabrina the Teenage Witch **6.30** Moesha **7.00** Close

TROUBLE

12.00pm Swan's Crossing **12.30** Ready or Not **1.00** Madison **1.30** California Dreams **2.00** Saved by the Bell **2.30** Swan's Crossing **3.00** No Naked Flames **3.30** Ready or Not **4.00** Saved by the Bell **4.30** USA High **5.00** Hangtime **5.30** California Dreams **6.00** On the Make **6.15** Teenage Urban Adventurers **6.30** Madison **7.00** Hangtime **7.30** USA High **8.00** Close

CHALLENGE TV

5.00pm Cross Wits **5.30** Say the Word **6.00** Family Fortunes **6.30** Catchphrase **7.15** The $64,000 Question **8.00** Split Second **8.30** Move on Up **9.15** Winner Takes All **10.00** Treasure Hunt **11.15** Whittle **12.00** Say the Word **12.30am** Hart to Hart **1.30** The Big Valley **2.30** Big Brother Jake **3.00** My Two Dads **3.30** Where I Live **4.00** Snowy River: The McGregor Saga **5.00** Shopping

BRAVO

8.00pm The A-Team (6507565) **9.00** Tour of Duty (6690229) **10.00** Red Shoe Diaries (9068580) **10.45 FILM: Creepshow 2** (1987) (44868565) **12.35am** Leslie Nielsen's Unbalanced World — Short (6388962) **12.45** Tour of Duty (9185350) **1.45** Red Shoe Diaries (6963986) **2.30 FILM: The Unbelievable Truth** (1989) (4138256) **4.30** The Maxx (6334695) **5.00** The A-Team (6420701)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Grace Under Fire (3836) **7.30** Roseanne (4861) **8.00** Ellen (2584) **8.30** Cybill (4519) **9.00** Cheers (62923) **9.30** Taxi (18229) **10.00** Frasier (99652) **10.30** The Kenny Everett Show (59300) **11.00** Still in Bed with MeDinner (74768) **11.30** Ellen (56923) **12.00** Roseanne (39635) **12.30am** Nightsland (23546) **1.00** Soap (89362) **1.30** Taxi (95411) **2.00** Still in Bed with MeDinner (31898) **2.30** Grace Under Fire (43633) **3.00** Frasier (76898) **3.30** *The Kenny Everett Show* (34985) **4.00** Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

8.00pm Sightings (4686855) **9.00** Sightings (4779519) **10.00** Space Precinct (4676478) **11.00** Friday the 13th (2999855) **12.00** Sightings (6742898) **1.00am** Twilight Zone (6734508) **1.30** Tales of the Unexpected (1275528) **2.00** Dark Shadows (1118140) **2.30** New Hitchcock (1137275) **3.00** Friday the 13th (7849879) **4.00** Close

HOME & LEISURE

9.00am The Joy of Painting (8169584) **9.30** Gardeners' Diary (9198942) **10.00** The Great Gardening Plot (6413300) **10.30** New Yankee Workshop (8164768) **11.00** Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventures (1888213) **11.30** Hometime (1883942) **12.00** The Close Guide (8148720) **12.30pm** This Old House (9272958) **1.00** Greg and Max's Just for Starters (4434590) **1.30** Our House (9271229) **2.00** The Furniture Guys (6345497) **2.30** Room for Improvement (7172403) **3.00** Two's Country (6428132) **3.30** This Old House (7071720) **4.00** Close

DISCOVERY

4.00pm The Diceman (7090855) **4.30** Diving Passions (7096039) **5.00** Ancient Warriors (6336749) **5.30** Beyond 2000 (7183519) **6.00** Dragons of Komodo (9184749) **7.00** Discovery News (6349213) **7.30** Disaster (7097768) **8.00** Untamed Amazonia (6510039) **9.00** Light Flight to Jordan (6696403) **10.00** Zulu Wars (6899590) **11.00** Bombers (4355039) **12.00** *Flightline* (3943169) **12.30am** Diving Passions (5609343) **1.00** Disaster (6359904) **1.30** Discovery News (2047256)

TRAVEL (cable)

12.00pm Travel Live **1.00** Wet and Wild **1.30** Railway Adventures Across Europe **2.00** Reel World **2.30** A River Somewhere **3.00** Holiday International **4.00** Cities of the World **4.30** *Greg's World* **5.00** Aspects of Life **5.30** Ocean World of John Stoneman **6.00** Sports Safaris **6.30** Wet and Wild **7.00** Travel Live **8.00** On the Horizon **8.30** Pathfinders **9.00** An Aerial Tour of Britain **10.00** A River Somewhere **10.30** A Golfer's Travels **11.00** Going Places **12.00** Close

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Weapons at War (7708045) **5.00** The Great Ships (2631126) **6.00** Ancient Mysteries (4629978) **7.00** Biography: Yul Brynner — the Man Who Was King (2694403) **8.00** Close

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm Endangered (7579958) **7.30** Outer Bounds (5160836) **8.00** Reflections on Elephants (3776584) **9.00** Cameramen Who Dared (3756720) **10.00** Jerusalem: Within These Walls (3766107) **11.00** Gold Diggers of the Liptaka (4319039) **12.00** Otters and Oil (3534985) **12.30am** Outer Bounds (9072166) **1.00** Close

CARLTON FOOD (cable)

12.00pm Food Network Daily **12.30** Antony's Scotland **1.00** Food for Thought **1.30** For Better, for Worse **2.00** A Taste of the Caribbean **2.30** Food Network Daily **3.00** Surprise Chefs **3.30** Graham Kerr's Kitchen **4.00** Who's Cooking Dinner? **4.30** Planet Nosh **5.00** Close

LIVING

6.00am Tiny Living **9.00** I Dream of Jeannie **9.30** The Gordon Elliott Show **10.10** Jerry Springer **11.00** The Young and the Restless **11.50** Brookside **12.20pm** Why Me? **1.00** Tempest **1.50** Ready, Steady, Cook **2.30** Cheap Chic **3.00** Live at Three **4.05** Jerry Springer **5.00** Rolonda **5.50** Lucky Ladders **6.20** Ready, Steady, Cook **7.00** Hearts Afire **7.30** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles **8.00** Adrenalin Junkies **9.00 FILM: My Name is Kate** **11.00** The Sex Files II **12.00** Close

ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran **7.30** Ru Ba Ru **8.00** ZEE Business Show **8.30** Raahat **9.00** FILM **11.30** Margarita **12.00** Parampara **12.30pm** Raahat **1.00** FILM **3.30** Ek Nazar **4.00** Ikke Pe Ikka **4.30** Udan Choo **5.00** ZEE Zone **5.30** Mast Mast Show **6.00** Hum Paanch **6.30** ZEE and You **7.00** Your Zindagi **7.30** It's My Choice **8.00** News and Euronews **8.30** Sailaab **9.00** Intequam **10.00** Monday Mystery **11.00** Out and About **11.30** Antakshari **12.00** Close

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هكذا من الاصل

COMPANIES 45
Plum results expected from Burton

BUSINESS

LOW NOTE 49
Roger Bootle on the Royal Opera House

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

MONDAY NOVEMBER 10 1997

Nike audit uncovers health hazards at factory

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

AN INTERNAL audit for Nike, the multinational sports goods company, has found that employees at its shoe factory near Ho Chi Minh City, in Vietnam, work in profoundly unhealthy conditions, and that a majority of workers suffer from respiratory problems caused by a prolonged exposure to toluene and other carcinogens.

The audit's findings have forced Nike to make a public "clarification". The audit said the Tae Kwang Vina factory "lacks adequate safety equipment and training, encourages excess overtime, and exposes workers to hazardous chemicals, noise, heat and dust".

The report, prepared for Nike by Ernst & Young, the accountancy firm, revealed that the presence of carcinogens in the factory's air exceeded the permissible local legal standards by 177 times. Vietnamese standards are reported to be four times as strict as US ones.

The report also said workers at the site, owned by a South Korean subcontractor, were forced to work 65 hours a week, 15 hours more than Vietnamese labour law allows. The average wage was found to be $10 a week.

Vada Manager, a Nike spokesman, said: "We believe that we look after the interests of our workers. There's a growing body of documentation that indicates that Nike workers earn superior wages, and they manufacture products under superior conditions."

He said the company had executed an "action plan" to improve working conditions at the Tae Kwang Vina plant since the report was received by the management. Mr Manager said Nike had "cut overtime sharply, improved safety and ventilation and reduced the use of toxic chemicals".

"This shows our system of monitoring works," he said. "We have uncovered these issues clearly before anyone else, and we have moved fairly expeditiously to correct them."

An audit found that Nike's Tae Kwang Vina factory "lacks adequate safety equipment . . . and exposes workers to hazardous chemicals, noise, heat and dust"

CBI and TUC to agree union rights proposals

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITAIN'S business and trade union leaders are to propose to the Government a three-year freeze on ballots on trade union recognition if first attempts to win a union deal fail.

The proposal is one of the key recommendations to be put to Tony Blair by a joint Confederation of British Industry and Trades Union Congress working party on trade union recognition — giving unions statutory rights to collective bargaining.

Senior CBI and TUC officials are currently drawing up a final document on the proposals of the working party, which was set up after Mr Blair asked the two organisations to see if they could narrow the differences between them on the issue before the Government legislated.

Details of the proposals will be sent within the next fortnight to Ian McCartney, Industry Minister, who will incorporate them into the Government's White Paper on fairness at work, which is due to be published early next year.

The proposals, revealed by *The Times* today as the CBI's annual conference in Birmingham debates employment issues, include agreement that:

☐ Provision for ballots on union recognition must also include the opportunity for employers to ballot on union derecognition — removing unions from an organisation.

☐ In the case of ballots on recognition or derecognition, there should be a period of time — the CBI and TUC favour three years — before a repeat ballot is held, to avoid large numbers of votes in any single organisation.

The joint proposals will also include ideas from the CBI and the TUC where the two sides have been unable to agree. Not only does this include the overall question of statutory trade union recognition, to which the employers would not agree though they want to make it work as well as possible in practice, but it includes the thorny technical question of what is the "appropriate" bargaining unit to be covered by recognition.

The TUC is insisting that this should be determined by an independent representation agency. The CBI is saying that it should be determined by the employer concerned, in line with its own business structures. The employers are also saying that legislation should not try to define how large or how small the bargaining unit should be.

The CBI is also arguing that there should be a "discernible" threshold of support for union recognition in a business before a ballot is called, though they are not specifying what that threshold level should be. Unions oppose this proposal.

The TUC is also against a further proposal from the CBI that small firms should be excluded from the provisions of the legislation, though they are not yet decided on what the cut-off should be in terms of the number of employees in a firm. But employers believe it would be ludicrous in, say, a three-man company if two voted for recognition and one against that unions would then be recognised.

Employers do not believe that unions should see the new law as the solution to all their problems of recruitment and membership. Unions accept that their best route to recognition is to persuade employers to give them a deal, rather than seek one through the law — but they are convinced a recognition law is vital.

The process of the CBI and TUC drawing up proposals on union recognition is the first time that Britain has operated European-style arrangements to try to get agreement from the two sides of industry, though it has operated in this case informally, rather than having a formal role under the law, as it does in Europe.

Debate turns up heat, page 50

City braced for sharp shares drop in London

BY RICHARD MILES, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

CITY brokers are braced for another sharp fall in London share prices when they return to their desks this morning after Tokyo plunged by more than 4 per cent on Friday.

Equity strategists expect the wave of selling to continue as investors become increasingly unnerved by the financial turbulence spreading throughout the Far East.

Andy Hartwill, an economic strategist with Société Générale, said: "Undoubtedly it's going to be a shaky start. I won't be surprised if the stock market tests the 4,380 level again over the next few days."

The FTSE 100 closed down 99.5 points — just over 2 per cent — at 4,764 on Friday, unsettled by strong jobs data from the US and continuing unease in Japan and Hong Kong. The Hang Seng finished the day 3 per cent lower at 15,836.

The Dow Jones industrial average followed suit, tumbling 145 points in the first 20 minutes of trading, before bouncing back to close off 102 points. Markets in Brazil and Argentina experienced even sharper declines.

London investors will also be nervous over the prospects of higher interest rates in spite of the Bank of England's decision last week to raise the base rate 0.25 per cent; the fifth increase in as many months.

Many analysts expect interest rates to reach 8 per cent, against their current level of 7.25 per cent, before the Bank feels entirely comfortable about hitting its inflation targets.

The City will get a better idea when the Bank publishes its quarterly inflation report on Wednesday.

Dealers also fear another rise in interest rates on the other side of the Atlantic.

The Federal Reserve Board meets on Wednesday to discuss the cost of borrowing, and some economists believe they could take their lead from Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England, and raise interest rates. The FTSE 100 is now more than 10 per cent lower than at the start of October, largely because of the turmoil in South-East Asia. UK financials are among those to have suffered most, especially banks with heavy exposure to Hong Kong such as HSBC Holdings and Standard Chartered.

Barclays 'near to BZW deal'

BY RICHARD MILES, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

BARCLAYS is expected to finalise the sale of BZW's European operations to Credit Suisse First Boston (CSFB), the Swiss-owned investment bank, within the next 48 hours.

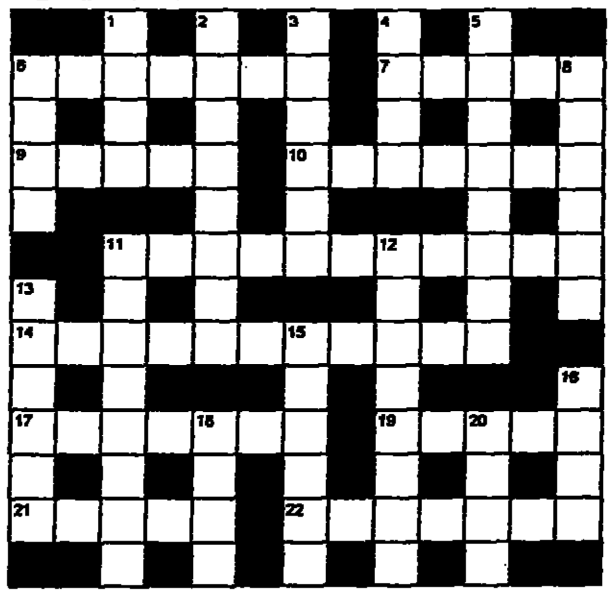
Barring any hitches, CSFB will agree to buy the equities business and corporate finance arm of BZW although it will pay less than the £400 million price suggested last week.

BZW staff were briefed on the proposed deal at meetings at the weekend amid widespread unrest at the way Martin Taylor, Barclays chief executive, has handled the sale.

Many BZW executives would have preferred a deal with Donaldson, Lufkin and Jenrette, the US investment bank that dropped out of the running just over a week ago. The sale attracted more than 20 bidders in all.

Concerns remain about the future of the back-office staff at BZW, as they appear to have been excluded from the CSFB proposal. The Swiss bank is believed to be interested in only about 1,000 of BZW's 7,500 workforce, though roughly half of these are based overseas.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1247

ACROSS
6 Whip; one inflicting suffering (7)
7 Tiny pathogen (5)
9 General direction: fashion (5)
10 Bordeaux region (7)
11 Object of derision (6,2,3)
14 Acceptable money (5,6)
17 Elec. power rating (7)
19 Cowboy show (5)
21 Large stream (5)
22 Strength, effectiveness (7)

DOWN
1 Fish: unaccompanied (4)
2 Generous, wasteful (8)
3 Account book (6)
4 State firmly (4)
5 Change, hand over (8)
6 Location: sounds like *vision* (4)
8 Observing: given (that) (6)
11 Absconder (8)
12 Stubborn (8)
13 A plant, bloom (6)
15 Excused (from obligation) (6)
16 Bunch of 13s (4)
18 Unit of area; Israel city (4)
20 Dip (eg biscuit in tea) (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1246
ACROSS: 1 Leprechaun 8 Bullion 9 Glade 10 Lope 11 Delirium 13 Baste 14 Least 16 Articles 17 Bend 20 Clout 21 Tourist 22 Dover Beach
DOWN: 1 Libel 2 Pole position 3 Emit 4 Hanker 5 Ungainly 6 Latin America 7 Pelmet 12 Mercutio 13 Branch 15 Seethe 18 Dutch 19 Curb

THE TIMES BOOKSHOP

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Business attack over education

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BUSINESS has delivered a stinging indictment of education standards, urging the Government to improve primary and secondary education to boost labour market flexibility.

In the Confederation of British Industry polls, companies complained about poor skills among school-leavers. The results of the CBI survey come amid widespread concern about skill shortages and ahead of the launch of a taskforce by David Blunkett, the Education and Employment Secretary, aimed at improving employees' skills.

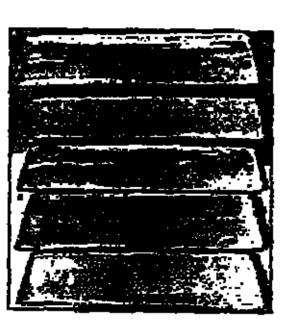
Some 43 per cent of businesses that responded to the survey said that practical numeracy among school-leavers was poor, while 40 per cent said communication skills were poor. More than a third thought general problem-solving was poor, and 32 per cent gave the same rating of the ability and motivation of their school-leavers to pursue opportunities for self-improvement in learning and performance.

Blunkett: taskforce

John Cridland, head of human resources at the CBI, said there are "serious pockets of skill shortages" in the country, although the general pattern is more encouraging. The scarcity of people with certain skills — such as in information technology and some areas of building — has been racheting up wage demands in some areas of the country.

The companies that responded to the survey urged the Government to make improving the quality of education its top priority for securing greater labour market flexibility.

This week in THE TIMES



Tomorrow
As prices tumble, the Indian gold rush begins

Wednesday
How should Biggins International behave in a country under military coup? The business ethics dilemma we pose for students

Thursday
American Agenda. Bronwen Maddox looks behind the figures on environmental pollution

Hill Samuel Life executives dismissed

RICHARD MILES
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

ABBEY LIFE, the insurer owned by Lloyds TSB, has dismissed the entire senior management of Hill Samuel Life, its subsidiary.

The directors of Hill Samuel Life have been told they are being made redundant as part of a restructuring that will see the company's identity disappear by the end of this year.

Among the casualaties are Brian Portman, chief executive, Wai Eu, finance director, Peter Morris, chief actuary, and Paul Clarke, human resources director. Their redundancies do not take effect until March 31, but some directors have left already after being told of their fate on Thursday.

Abbey Life recently wrote to policyholders outlining plans to dismantle Hill Samuel Life and absorb it within the wider group. Hill Samuel Life has been closed to new business for several years.

Lloyds TSB said that the jobs of the 400 workers at Hill Samuel were quite safe. The bank added that Hill Samuel Asset Management, its retail fund-management business, did not fall within the scope of the restructuring plan.

Hill Samuel, formerly one of the City's most distinguished merchant banks, was bought by TSB for £700 million in 1987, weeks before the stock market crashed. TSB stuck to the price, but the acquisition has proved to be a less than profitable move. In June 1996, following the £13 billion merger of Lloyds and TSB, the Hill Samuel corporate finance team was hived off to Close Brothers.

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